

City SG - February 23-24, 2019

Bible Story: Secret Service (Give in Secret) • *Matthew 6:1-4*

Bottom Line: Serve others without looking for applause.

Memory Verse: “Jesus sat down and called for the 12 disciples to come to him. Then he said, ‘Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last. They must be the servant of everyone.’”
Mark 9:35, NIV

1. Telephone Tongue Twisters

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Encourage kids to stand in a circle.
- Explain that you will whisper a Telephone Tongue Twister to the first person in line and the group will pass it down the line until they get to the end.
- Remind them that they may only whisper it once and that even if the person didn't hear them, they can't say it again.
- Ask the last person in line to share aloud what they think the telephone tongue twister was!
- Continue as time and interest allow.

Telephone Tongue Twisters:

1. The darling donkey did a daring deed.
2. I'd like a proper glass of soda pop pronto, please.
3. Tiny tarantulas are still a teeny terrible time if you ask me.
4. The terribly tall teacher taught the totally trendy class.
5. What was the rhinoceros roaming around the room for?
6. How many miles must I move to make a mega mile mark?
7. Parkview people probably wear perfect pink or purple pants.

What You Say:

“Wow! Some of those Telephone Tongue Twisters got really messed up. You all were making me laugh so hard. Has anyone ever told a secret with your friends or had someone try to whisper something to you from across a room? It can get pretty confusing in real life, too. **[Transition] Today in Large Group, we learned about something good we can do in secret and why it's better to keep it that way! Serving others!**”

2. Service without Applause

What You Need: Plastic spoons (10 per group), plastic eggs (1-2 per group)

What You Do:

- Encourage kids to stand in a circle facing each other.
- Hand out a spoon to each kid.
- Explain that you will place a plastic egg on someone's spoon and they will pass it to the person who is to the right of them.
- The goal is to use their spoons to pass the egg around the circle without dropping it.
- Make it even more challenging for kids by having them put their spoons behind their backs to pass it to each other.

What You Say:

“No one wants to clap when you’ve dropped the egg! Has anyone ever dropped an egg on the ground in real life? (*Allow time for responses.*) Eggs make a complete mess, that’s for sure! Here’s the thing, though. When it comes to serving others, we don’t need applause from others. We can just serve because we know it’s the best thing to do. Remember our lesson from today. You can **[Bottom Line] serve others without looking for applause.**”

[Make It Personal] (Share a personal example of a time you served someone who didn’t even know it was you who helped them. Tell how you felt afterward.)

3. Service with a Smile

What You Need: “Service with a Smile” Booklet (one per kid), Markers (campus supplies)

What You Do:

- Give every kid a booklet, and place markers in the middle of the group.
- Tell the kids they will be finishing the booklet by designing a cover and coloring the inside pages.
- Encourage kids to make up their own act of service and draw it on the back cover, and to think about which of these acts they can accomplish this coming week.

What You Say:

“I love the way you all are designing your ‘Service with a Smile’ books. Now you will have a bunch of awesome ideas to serve others all week long. Out of all the ideas, what is one you are most excited for? (*Allow time for as many kids to respond as time allows.*) I love it! It will be even more awesome if you can accomplish those things in secret. It may be fun trying to sneak around and make it happen without anyone noticing. Remember, serving isn’t about getting recognized by others. You can **[Bottom Line] serve others without looking for applause.**”

4. Left Hand, Right Hand

What You Need: Paper plates (one per kid), markers

What You Do:

- Briefly unpack the phrase “don’t let your left hand know what your right hand is doing.” Use the conversation below as a guide.
- Give each child a paper plate, and set out the markers.
- Guide kids to trace both their left and right hands onto their plates multiple times, creating a colorful line tangle.
- Kids can take their creations home as reminders to **[Bottom Line] serve others without looking for applause.**

What You Say:

“When Jesus said: “Be careful not to do good deeds in front of other people” (Matthew 6:1 NIV), He meant that we shouldn’t serve others just to be noticed or liked. Instead, He said: “When you give to needy people, don’t let your left hand know what your right hand is doing” (Matthew 6:3 NIV). That means that you should give in secret, and **[Bottom Line] serve others without looking for applause or praise.**

"Take your paper plates home and let them remind you that God wants you to **[Bottom Line] serve others without looking for applause.**"

5. Pray and Dismiss

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Ask kids to think about how a high five from a favorite coach or applause from their parents makes them feel.
- Ask a few kids to share their thoughts.

What You Say:

"Dear God, we know that applause does make us feel good! We like to know we have done something good. But when it comes to serving, help us remember that we can **[Bottom Line] serve others without looking for applause.** Help us to remember that when we are serving people in secret, YOU are applauding us, and that is all we need! We love You and thank You for using us to serve others. We pray this in Jesus' name, amen!"

BEFORE DISMISSAL: AT "COMMUNION CALL"

**HAND OUT "GOD TIME" CARDS TO EACH CHILD AND ALLOW THEM TIME TO BEGIN
WORKING ON THE WEEKLY ACTIVITY**

IF CHILDREN BRING THEM BACK THE FOLLOWING WEEK, THEY RECEIVE A PRIZE!