



20 Family Service Projects for All Ages

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In a culture of more give than take, kids can be used to having every whim indulged and every wish granted.

Each year that I venture back into the classroom, I'm amazed at the epidemic among modern families. There seems to be a trend and emphasis on child entitlement, instead of creating a biblical foundation of loving and serving others. {Visit [A Generation of Entitled Perfectionists?](#) to join the debate on the tendency of modern children.}

But we don't have to settle for the ways of the world when raising our children. By doing acts of service together, it encourages us to teach children the joy of being a servant of the Lord by rolling up our sleeves and participating in family service projects.

Serving together will not only make wonderful memories and strengthen the family, it will enhance character and foster understanding in children that life is not centered around them.

This list will allow kids of all ages to participate and learn young the beauty of service. Have fun!

1-4 years old

- Assist in baking cookies for someone in need of cheer
- Draw or color a card
- Learn and sing a song for an elderly neighbor
- Plant flowers or a plant to give away
- Help assemble a gift basket
- Choose toys and items to donate to those in need

5-10 years old

- Read a story aloud to a neighbor in need of comfort
- Help make and stuff lunches for the less fortunate
- Make a meal for someone who's sick or recovering from surgery
- Clean a room in the home of someone else

- Earn money to give to an organization or to someone in need
- Create thank you gifts for local law enforcement officers or fire fighters

10+ years old

- Yard work
- Mentor young children
- Volunteer for an organization, such as a homeless shelter or soup kitchen
- Go on a mission trip {younger children can go with a parent}
- Clean up parks
- Volunteer time to sit with a neighbor and talk
- Run errands for those who are unable to themselves
- Adopt a family in need, and consistently do random acts of kindness to help
- Wash cars