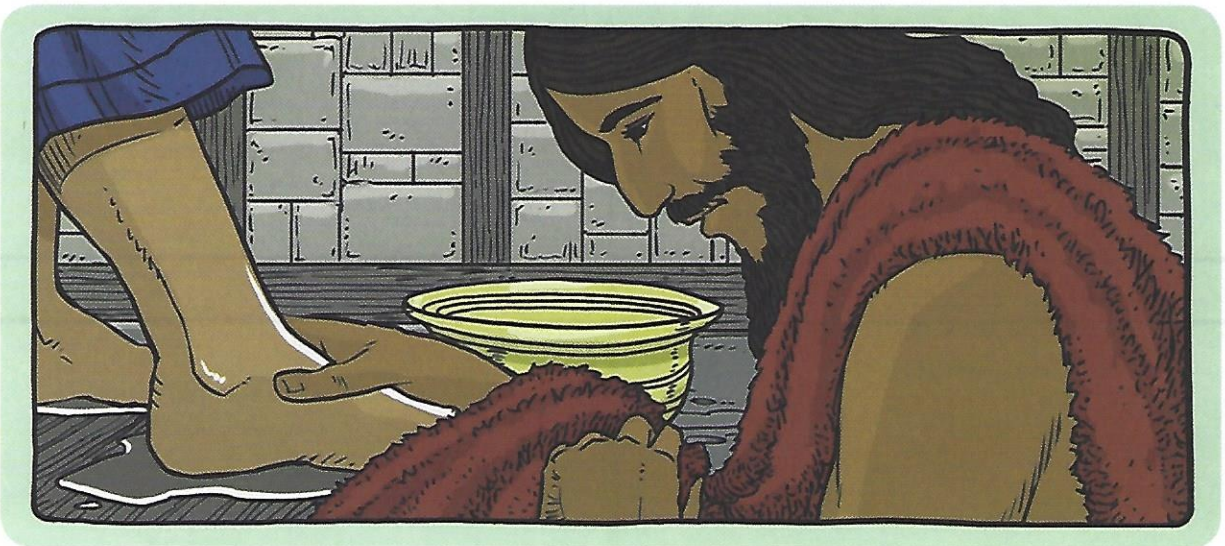


We Are Sent Forth to Share Love



Prayer

Jesus, you are an example of the love and kindness God calls us to show others. Help us to keep spreading that love and kindness in our words and actions. Amen.

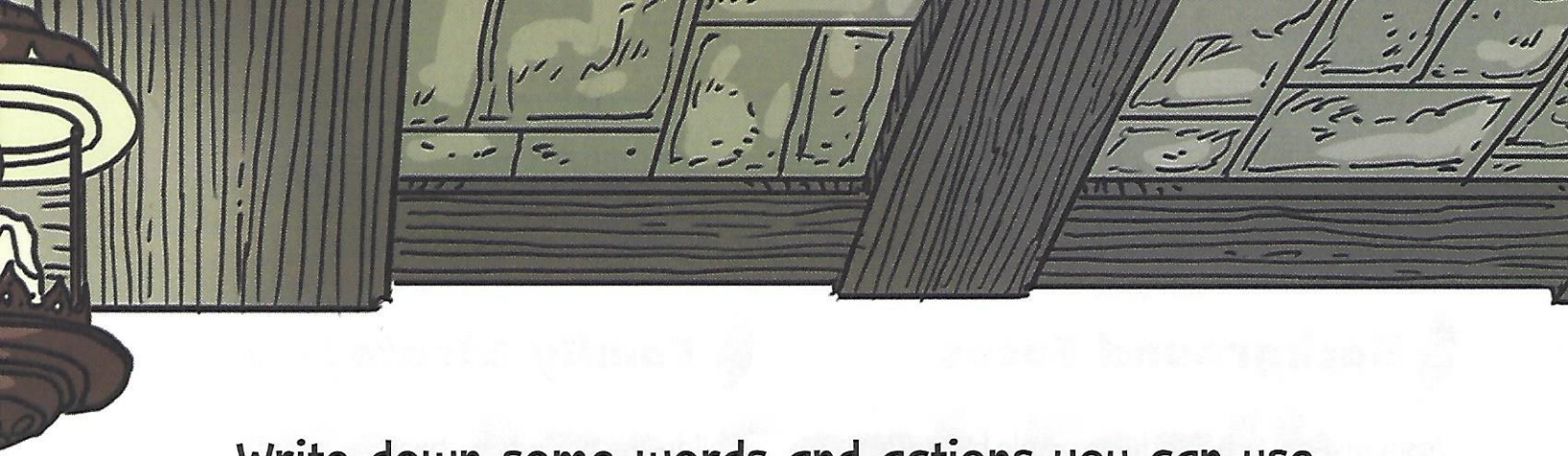


Think of three actions of service you are willing to do for family members. Write one action in each of the boxes.

Empty rounded rectangular box for writing the first action of service.

Empty rounded rectangular box for writing the second action of service.

Empty rounded rectangular box for writing the third action of service.



Write down some words and actions you can use to share God's love with others.

Words

Actions

Family Page

Background Focus

Jesus gives us a powerful example by washing the disciples' feet at the Last Supper. This action leaves no question about our role and responsibility to others. Service, outreach, kindness, and charity are all marks of Jesus' followers.

The Concluding Rites in the Mass call us to go forward and be messengers of God's love to the world. Having been nourished by the Word and the Eucharist, we are strengthened to live as we are called to, reaching out and serving others through word and action.

In this lesson, the children will examine ways that they can continue Jesus' mission of Good News through acts of love and kindness. As we help them explore how they can live a life of Christian service, we, ourselves, are living out this important call by serving the children and sharing God's awesome love with them.

Family Strategies

Children can easily become overwhelmed and feel helpless as they hear about negative local, national, or global events. Make sure to give them space to talk about their feelings and help them see that they can do something about these things, even if it is something local or very small. Discuss possible responses together and make sure to pray together as a family for all people affected by such events.

Family Activities

- Discuss with your child some ways that your family can serve others, such as donating food or clothes, working in a food pantry, sending cards to those who are sick, etc. Make a plan to do one of these actions.
- Search for "Star Fish Story – Making a Difference Every Day" (2:16), posted by Jostens on YouTube, and watch it together. Talk with your child about what she or he thinks is the message of this video, and discuss the small ways we can make a difference every day.
- Read together the Featured Story on page 1686 in *The Catholic Children's Bible* (John 13:3–5, 14–15). Invite your child to tell you what he or she remembers about the meaning of this Scripture passage.

Pray It!

Pray this prayer together as a family, beginning and ending with the Sign of the Cross.

Dear Jesus, help our family remember that you called us to serve one another through our words and actions. Help us to always show love and kindness to each other. Amen.