

Kindergarten Kickstarter:

An Invitation To GENEROSITY

Kids in kindergarten are beginning to think outside themselves. They are developing empathy. And it's a great time to capitalize on that by helping them see that they can be generous to those around them. We want to help families carve out three moments to look at what the Bible says about generosity, culminating in a Rites of Passage Experience where a family can SERVE together.

Kickstarter 1: What do I have?

Read **Matthew 14:14-21** below or use a kids' Bible and read the story of Jesus feeding the 5,000.

When Jesus came ashore, he saw a large crowd. He felt deep concern for them. He healed their sick people. When it was almost evening, the disciples came to him. "There is nothing here," they said. "It's already getting late. Send the crowds away. They can go and buy some food in the villages."

Jesus replied, "They don't need to go away. You give them something to eat."

"We have only five loaves of bread and two fish," they answered.

"Bring them here to me," he said. Then

Jesus directed the people to sit down on the grass. He took the five loaves and the two fish. He looked up to heaven and gave thanks. He broke the loaves into pieces. Then he gave them to the disciples. And the disciples gave them to the people.

All of them ate and were satisfied. The disciples picked up 12 baskets of leftover pieces. The number of men who ate was about 5,000. Women and children also ate.

This boy with the fish and bread gave Jesus what he had, and it was enough. Everything we have is from God.

Inside the basket, draw pictures of things that God has given you. Parents, make sure to draw a couple of pictures as well. This is meant to be a family activity that will help your child see that we all recognize that every gift we have is from God. Pray together, thanking God for all the things He has given you.

Kickstarter 2: What can I do?

Read the story of the good Samaritan from a kids' Bible or read the following verses, **Luke 10:30-37**:

Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho. Robbers attacked him. They stripped off his clothes and beat him. Then they went away, leaving him almost dead. A priest happened to be going down that same road. When he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. A Levite also came

by. When he saw the man, he passed by on the other side, too.

But a Samaritan came to the place where the man was. When he saw the man, he felt sorry for him. He went to him, poured olive oil and wine on his wounds and bandaged them. Then he put the man on his own donkey. He took him to an inn and took care of him. The next day he took out two silver coins. He gave them to the owner of the inn. 'Take care of him,' he said. 'When I return, I will pay you back for any extra expense you may have.'

"Which of the three do you think was a neighbor to the man who was attacked by robbers?"

The authority on the law replied, "The one who felt sorry for him."

Jesus told him, "Go and do as he did."

Ask:

What made the Samaritan good?

Get some Band-aids, ask your child the following questions, and write the answers on the Band-aids. Then place the Band-aids on a doll or action figure.

Ask:

What are you good at?

What do you like to do?

How can you help others?

Kickstarter 3: Who needs help around me?

Read the story of Jesus healing a man who couldn't walk, either from a kids' Bible or directly from **Mark 2:1-12**:

A few days later, Jesus entered Capernaum again. The people heard that he had come home. So many people gathered that there was no room left. There was not even room outside the door. And Jesus preached the word to them.

Four of those who came were carrying a man who could not walk. But they could not get him close to Jesus because of the crowd. So they made a hole in the roof above Jesus. Then they lowered the man through it on a mat.

Jesus saw their faith. So he said to the man, "Son, your sins are forgiven." Some teachers of the law were sitting there. They were thinking, "Why is this fellow talking like that? He's saying a very evil thing! Only God can forgive sins!"

Right away Jesus knew what they were thinking. So he said to them, "Why are you thinking these things? Is it easier to say to this man, 'Your sins are forgiven'? Or to say, 'Get up, take your mat and walk'? I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins."

Then Jesus spoke to the man who could not walk. "I tell you," he said, "get up. Take your mat and go home."

The man got up and took his mat. Then he walked away while everyone watched. All the people were amazed. They praised God and said, "We have never seen anything like this!"

Ask:

What did the friends do in this story?

What was wrong with their friend?

Do you know someone who needs help? Write that person's/people's name(s) on the picture of the mat and pray for them.