



**Educate
+ Engage**



THE CALL
OF GOD



The Call of God

OVERVIEW

When God calls us, it's not just for our benefit—it's so we can serve others. Jesus showed us what true greatness looks like by becoming a servant. In this lesson, we will learn how God invites us to follow His example by using our gifts, our time, and our hearts to serve the people around us. No one is too young to make a difference when their heart is available. Serving isn't always glamorous, but it is always powerful. When we serve others in Jesus' name, we reflect His love in a way that words alone cannot.

Optional Activity

Instructions: Prepare cards with simple acts of service (e.g., "pick up trash," "help someone carry books," "set the table," "encourage someone"). Students act them out silently while others guess.

Follow-up: Serving isn't always flashy, but it's powerful. Today we'll talk about how serving makes us more like Jesus.

Scripture Passages

Mark 10:43-45 (NKJV)

Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant. And whoever of you desires to be first shall be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.

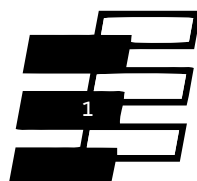
I Peter 4:10 (NKJV)

As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

EDUCATE

Point 1: Jesus came to serve, and we're called to follow His example.

Jesus, God made visible in the flesh, could have come to earth and expected everyone to serve Him. But He didn't. He chose to wash feet, heal the sick, feed the hungry, and ultimately give His life. In Mark 10:45, Jesus says He came "to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."



Lesson 3

Jesus redefined what it means to be great. In a world where people try to climb to the top, Jesus chose to kneel at the bottom. He didn't use His power to be served, but to serve others. That's the heart of a servant.

How does it make you feel to know that Jesus served others instead of being served? What does that tell you about His heart?

If Jesus made serving a priority, then we should too. Serving isn't a punishment, it's a privilege. It's not a "lesser" task but a Kingdom assignment. When we serve, we walk in the footsteps of Jesus. And we find that serving others often changes us just as much as it helps them.

Jesus didn't just talk about serving, He did it. He got His hands dirty. He met real needs. And He calls us to do the same. Whether it's helping put out or stack chairs at youth group, encouraging a classmate, or picking up trash no one else sees, our servanthood reflects Jesus.

Point 2: God has uniquely gifted each of us to make a difference.

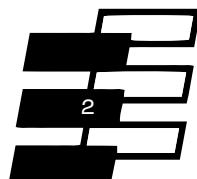
Every single person has been given gifts by God. That includes you. First Peter 4:10 tells us to use those gifts to serve one another. Your gift might be encouragement, creativity, administration, leadership, helping others, teaching, or even making people laugh. God made you on purpose and for a purpose.

What are some gifts or talents you think God has given you? How could you use those to help someone else?

You don't need to be an adult, have a title, or be on a platform to make a difference. Some of the most powerful ministry happens through quiet acts of service: a kind word, a helping hand, a note of encouragement, a listening ear, or teaching a Bible study.

Serving doesn't always mean doing big things. It can be as simple as helping at church, including someone at lunch, or praying for a friend. Small acts of service make a big impact when done in love. It's not about what you do—it's about who you're doing it for. When you serve in Jesus' name, even the smallest act matters.

Serving also helps you discover your purpose and calling. As you use your gifts, God shows you more about who you are and how He wants to use you. It's in serving that your passion meets people's needs. Your calling becomes clearer, your confidence grows, and your faith deepens.



Point 3: Serving isn't about age; it's about availability and heart.

Some people think, "I'll serve God when I'm older." But you don't have to wait. In fact, some of the greatest examples in the Bible were young people who said yes to God. David was a teenager when he fought Goliath. Mary was a teenager when she was chosen to carry the promised messiah, Jesus. Jeremiah was called to be a prophet as a youth.

What matters most is not your age, but your willingness. God uses available people. When you say, "Here I am, God. Use me," He will open doors.

Have you ever thought you were too young to make a difference? What might change if you believed God could use you now?

Being available doesn't mean being perfect. It means having a heart that's open, teachable, and willing. God doesn't need superstars; He uses servants. The greatest ability is availability. When you say yes, He equips you.

Think about what God could do through your life if you committed to being a servant wherever you go: a servant at home, at school, online, on your team, at your church, and in your community. What if you looked for ways to bless others every day? The ripple effect would be powerful.

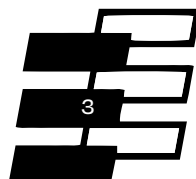
Serving brings joy and grows your faith. Something powerful happens when you serve: you begin to experience the joy of giving. Jesus said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35). And it's true. There's a deep joy that comes from knowing you're being used by God to help others.

Serving also stretches your faith. It pushes you out of your comfort zone. Maybe you're shy, but you step up to lead a small group. Maybe you're nervous, but you help pray for someone. Every time you serve, you take a step of faith. And each step builds spiritual muscle.

Can you remember a time when serving others made you feel joyful or more connected to God?

When you serve, you grow. You learn responsibility. You learn humility. You learn what it means to care more about others than yourself. Serving is one of the best discipleship tools God gives us. It matures you. It humbles you. And it strengthens your walk with Jesus.

Serving opens the door to share your faith. One of the most powerful ways to discover your call and purpose is to share your faith and the love of Jesus is through acts of service. When people



see you consistently serving with a good attitude, it speaks volumes. It builds credibility. It makes people curious. They start to wonder, "Why are you doing this?" And that's your moment to point them to Jesus.

You don't have to preach a sermon to witness. You can show the gospel through kindness, consistency, and love. And when the opportunity comes to speak, your actions have already prepared the way.

Closing

God has called you to serve. Not someday but today. Jesus showed us that greatness comes through humility and love. When we serve others, we show them what Jesus is like. And the best part? God uses our service to grow us, bless others, and bring light to a world that needs it.

Whether it's something big or small, every act of service counts. You might not always see the impact, but God does. Heaven sees. And the seeds you plant through serving will bear fruit that lasts.

ENGAGE

Where is God calling you to serve right now?

Ask God to show you how you can use your gifts to help others. Maybe it's in your home, school, youth group, church or community. Then take a step. Sign up. Speak up. Show up. You don't have to do everything—just be willing to do something.

Make a list of three ways you could serve this week. It could be helping a sibling, encouraging a friend, or volunteering at church. Pray over that list. Ask God to use your service for His glory.

Teacher Note: Invite students to write down one way they can serve this week and pray over those commitments. Challenge them to follow through and come back next week ready to share what God did through their "yes." Consider pairing students for accountability and encouragement.

