

COMMAND FROM Jesus

"Do to others as
you would have
them do to you."

Luke 6:31

"Love your
neighbor
as yourself."

Mark 12:31

ELLEN WHITE, *THAT I MAY KNOW HIM*

"Whole armies of children may come under Christ's banner as missionaries, even in their childhood years. Never repulse the desire of children to do something for Jesus. Never quench their ardor for working in some way for the Master" (Ellen G. White, *That I May Know Him*, p. 42).

REMINDE US OF THE CALL TO SERVE

"And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased" (Heb. 13:16).

"Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ" (Gal. 6:2).

GET YOUR KIDS INVOLVED!

It's **Global Children's Day!**

Join children and youth all around the world to make a difference!

You may want to contact your Division to inquire about specific activities that may be planned.

INVOLVE YOUR Children IN MINISTRY & SERVICE



CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES DEPARTMENT
General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904 USA
www.gcchildmin.org

GLOBAL CHILDREN'S DAY



ONE BODY WITH MANY PARTS!

- Membership in the body of Christ has no age requirement (Rom. 12:4-5)
- Each member has important gifts to be used in ministry in the church and community (Rom. 12:6).
- Each member, young or old, can contribute to the life and health of the church (Eph. 4:11-12).

“Each of us has one body with many parts. And the parts do not all have the same purpose. So also we are many persons. But in Christ we are one body. And each part of the body belongs to all the other parts. We all have gifts. They differ in keeping with the grace that God has given each of us. Do you have the gift of prophecy? Then use it in keeping with the faith you have. Is it your gift to serve? Then serve. Is it teaching? Then teach” (Rom. 12:4-6).

WHY GET KIDS INVOLVED IN SERVICE?

“Getting young people involved in mission and service is not an option for Christian growth and maturity – it is a necessity” (*Jim Burns, The Youthbuilder: Today’s Resource for Relational Youth Ministry*).



“THE BEST WAY TO FIND OURSELF IS TO LOSE OURSELF IN THE SERVICE OF OTHERS.”—Gandhi

GEORGE BARNAS ON INVOLVEMENT IN MINISTRY

“We believe it is imperative to instill the value that a Christian is blessed to pass that blessing on to others, and that can only be accomplished if the person is actively serving other people. The act of serving other people is cultivated from the earliest years the children engage in the church’s program. Whether those forms of service are simple—visiting people in nursing homes, making birthday cards to send to sick people, earnestly praying for specific individuals. . . the hope is to build a habit” (*Transforming Children into Spiritual Champions*, p. 112).

ELLEN WHITE, MINISTRY OF HEALING

“Very early the lesson of helpfulness should be taught the child. . . He should be encouraged in trying to help father and mother, encouraged to deny and to control himself, to put other’s happiness and convenience before his own, to watch for opportunities to cheer and assist brothers and sisters and playmates, and to show kindness to the aged, the sick, and the unfortunate. The more fully the spirit of true ministry pervades the home, the more fully it will be developed in the lives of the children. They will learn to find joy in service and sacrifice for the good of others” (Ellen G. White, *Ministry of Healing*, p. 401).

BENEFITS OF INVOLVING KIDS IN MINISTRY AND SERVICE?

- Put their growing faith into action.
- Develop compassion and empathy for others.
- Get an opportunity to use their gifts and talents in serving others.
- Empowered to make a difference in their world,
- Discover the plan and purpose God has for their lives.
- Understand that Christ calls us to a lifestyle of servanthood and a heart for mission.

- Learn valuable life lessons like responsibility and work ethics.
- Appreciate other cultures.

IDEAS FOR CREATIVE SERVICE PROJECTS

- Serve food to the homeless at a downtown shelter.
- Pick up litter at the beach or park.
- Help to raise funds for refugee children.
- Visit the homes for the elderly and pass out lunches.
- Pack school supplies or lunches for poor children or children of incarcerated parents.
- Visit sick children and write cards to cheer them up.
- Participate in a prayer walk around the neighborhood by praying for each home.
- Plant trees or flowers in the community.
- Put up a health puppet show in the community to teach others about healthful living.
- Donate used textbooks for low-income students.
- Collect DVDs and videogames they no longer use and donate them to a children’s hospital.
- Pack food or toiletries boxes to distribute to refugee children or disaster victims.
- Organize play activities and games for after-school children.
- Pass out free literature or tracts to people in the park at the bus stop, etc.
- Write cards of encouragement to children of prisoners.
- Help clean the yard for the disabled.

