

## 20 Questions for Confirmation

**Q15: What does it mean to serve others? What are ways we can serve others? How can we put others first in our daily lives?**

Watch this short video from the Gospel of John, Chapter 13, where Jesus washes his disciples' feet as an act of service. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0kSCY\\_mQxqk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0kSCY_mQxqk)

After Jesus washed their feet, he explained to them that he was setting an example for them. He washed their feet as an act of service, just as they are to wash other's feet. Now, we don't often go around washing the feet of our family, friends, or strangers! But, there are many ways that we can serve others. Think of "footwashing" as any sort of act of kindness, a way of helping, or something good you do for someone without being asked (or paid!) to do it.

### **Deeper Dive**

**What are ways we can serve others?**

There are two good strategies to find ways to serve someone.

1. Think of things you enjoy doing or are especially good at. Think of those things as gifts that you can share.
2. Keep your eyes open to what another person may need. If you pay attention, you can probably find many ways to help that person in small and larger ways.

Brainstorm some ideas of things you might be able to do. If you think of other people or groups of people, add those to the list, too!

People we may be able to serve	Ways we could serve them
Family members	
Friends	
Neighbors	
Strangers	
Older people	
Our community	

### **How can we put others first in our daily lives?**

It is hard for people of any age to put someone else first, and themselves as second. It is our human nature to be so focused on ourselves, and to always be thinking of our own needs above the needs of others. It takes practice. Think of a few small ways you can practice this. (One easy way is to try to hold a door open for people to walk through ahead of you. Yes, it is polite and helpful to do this any time you can. It is also something that if you try it enough, it becomes a habit.)

**Imagine this:** You're at a church event with pizza. Some people go through the food line, and think "it doesn't look like enough pizza," and they choose to take only 1 slice to make sure

there's enough for everyone. Others go through that same line and think "it doesn't look like enough pizza," and take 2 slices, just in case it runs out before they can have seconds. Which kind of person is putting others first? Which kind of person are you? What might you do in the midst of a situation like this?

**Prayer**

Dear good and gracious God, we know you are always with us, and that you use us to reach out and serve others in your name. Show us ways to show love to others by helping, giving, and serving. Bless us with the heart of a servant, that we may find joy in putting others first, and by doing so, remind us to always put you very first above all else. In the name of Jesus, who came to us as an example of humble serving. Amen.