

SERVING IDEAS THROUGH THE PHASES ELEMENTARY

- **Get a small bench for your child** and give them a chance to be the chef. Choose an easier meal and let them do most of the work. Then have them plate up their culinary creations and serve the family!
- **Spend a week listening for sirens**—police cars, ambulances, fire trucks. As you hear them, take time to pray together for people who are going through difficult things. (Dear Jesus, please help the people who need that ambulance. Calm their hearts and heal their bodies.)
- **When your child notices** someone is sick or missing from school or practice, make and deliver a “get well soon” basket full of their favorite goodies.
- **Surprise another family** with a special after-dinner dessert delivery. (Think: ice cream and toppings, cookies and milk, trail mix and sodas, popcorn and juice boxes.)
- **Sign up for a weekend service project** or mission experience. Serve at a food kitchen, do volunteer yard work or host a car wash for a cause—get your hands dirty together! It won’t be long before they’ll be doing these things on their own.
- **Take a walk to a natural water source** (like a stream or river). Have a conversation about the basic human need for clean water. Use a bucket to collect water, then take turns carrying it. Explain that many people around the world have to carry water great distances to their homes every day. As you feel the weight of the water, pray for the people who still have to carry water every day. Go deeper by finding a way to get involved in providing basic needs to kids.
- **Look for opportunities** to support other kids. Sponsor another child by providing a field trip scholarship, packing a shoebox for Operation Christmas Child or giving money at the grocery store for food or school supplies. Involve your kids as much as possible.
- **Meet with a school teacher**, administrator or church leader to talk about how your child can become a host for new students who will need help finding their way.
- **Work together to create artwork** for a grandparent or other special adult. Find out their favorite colors and favorite things and base the creations on them. Then, together, be the delivery service.

