

SERVING IDEAS THROUGH THE PHASES HIGH SCHOOL

- **Adopt a grandparent.** Ask your teenagers to identify an older person who they like talking to. (It could be a person from church, the grocery store.) Send cards, notice them on holidays and listen to their stories. Older folks have lived long enough to have some great stories—and great wisdom!
- **Fundraise for a friend.** Save or raise enough money to pay for a friend to go to summer camp or another event. Try and see if you can do it anonymously!
- **Subscribe to an e-newsletter** that sends updates about humanitarian work being done around the world. Use the updates as conversation starters for your family. Keep the needs alive during the week by praying for them until the next update.
- **When you notice your teen** feeling compassionate toward a cause or a need, help them brainstorm ideas to support it on their own or to find/create ways to get additional support.
- **Find a weekly service opportunity** where your high schooler can commit to a weekly responsibility. A local church is a great place to start—schools are too!
- **Delegate hosting responsibility** to your teenager. Give them a chance to think ahead about what needs to be done and how to respond to the needs of the guests. Help them get ready and serve them as they make the get-together a success.
- **Together with your teenager,** brainstorm a way to support a child during a holiday or a major school event. And then do it!
- **Go on a mission trip.** Let your child get out of the country, get out of their minds and out of their own little worlds. Let your child be stretched and pushed to a place of dependence on God.
- **Look for areas of leadership** at church or in a community organization that need volunteers. Help your senior get involved, even if they feel too busy. Keep putting options out there for them.
- **Mentor a child in elementary school.** Help your senior find ways to get involved in a program that lasts all year. They'll find that while serving and blessing a child, they've been blessed too!

