20 SERVE 18 DAY

SERVE DAY IDEAS: There are a number of different ways you can make a difference in your community through your small group. They key is to build your project around your gifts, passions and what God has put on your heart to do.

You can begin by asking yourself the following questions. Hopefully, the answers will help you launch your small group project around your God-given purpose.

- What are you good at doing and love to do?
- What individuals, ministries or organizations around you could benefit from your skills?
- What needs in your community seem to stand out to you above others?

Form your group project around your passion and gifting. Keep it simple, make it fun and invite others who have similar interests and skills to join your group project. The following are just a few small group ideas to help get your creativity flowing:

Arts & Crafts

- Arts & Crafts for a local Children's Hospital or Children's ward (Children's Medical Center, Medical City Children's Hospital, Scottish Rite Hospital for Children)
- Arts & music for underprivileged children
- Nursing home visits (prayer, worship, arts & crafts)

Community Outreach

- Car wash for local school faculty needs
- Clothing drive
- First Aid/CPR classes
- Hair care for cancer patients, elderly or low income
- Job interviewing & employment skill training
- Local school project (clean a classroom, provide needs for teacher, etc.)
- Neighborhood Vacation Bible School
- Stock the Pantry at a local food bank (Helping Hands)
- Teach computer skills
- Teaching healthy nutrition & medical/dental services
- Volunteer at a homeless & pregnant teen program (violashouse.org) providing gently used clothing for moms & babies, or host a cooking class or job training class

Food Prep & Distribution

- Cooking for a cause (homeless, sick, etc.)
- Prepare & deliver meals to elderly (Meals on Wheels)
- Prepare a meal for local Police or Firemen
- Serve a meal at a local homeless shelter

Landscaping

- Adopt a block in your neighborhood (highway trash pick-up, community beautification, etc.)
- Landscaping for the elderly, disable or single moms
- Neighborhood or City Park landscape project

Minor Home Repairs, Painting & Cleaning

- Clean and decorate for a single parent
- Indoor or outdoor painting project for the elderly, disable, single mom or community ministry
- Minor home repairs for the elderly, disabled or single moms

Missionary Support

- Cleaning or repairs for a local women's shelter
- Collect items needed for a Church missionary
- Repairs, landscaping, cleaning at Boles Children's home
- Send letters and care packages to our Soldiers Overseas
- Support local ministries' administrative needs

Prayer & Visitation

- Coffee & prayer for police and firemen
- Hospital prayer groups or visitation in the ER or NICU
- Shut-in visits

Skilled Construction

- Build/repair a fence for elderly, shut-in or single mom
- Larger home repairs or updates for elderly, shut-in or single mom
- Build a wheelchair ramp for elderly or handicapped individuals

Sorting/Assembly

- Assemble hygiene kits for the homeless
- Blankets/socks/toiletries for the homeless
- Care packages for hospitalized, sick children, foster kids
- Sort & distribute items at a local homeless ministry
 - Children's Hunger Fund <u>http://childrenshungerfund.org/volunteer/</u>
 - o Helping Hands <u>http://rockwallhelpinghands.com/volunteers/volunteer-needs/</u>
 - o Interfaith Family Services <u>http://interfaithdallas.org/get-involved/volunteer/volunteer-opportunities/</u>
 - Our Calling <u>https://www.ourcalling.org/</u>