

Kindergarten Kickstarter:

An Invitation To GENEROSITY

Kids in kindergarten are beginning to think outside themselves. They are developing empathy. And it's a great time to capitalize on that by helping them see that they can be generous to those around them. We want to help families carve out three moments to look at what the Bible says about generosity, culminating in a Rites of Passage Experience where a family can SERVE together.

Kickstarter 1: What do I have?

Read **Matthew 14:14-21** below or use a kids' Bible and read the story of Jesus feeding the 5,000.

Jesus saw the huge crowd as he stepped from the boat, and he had compassion on them and healed their sick. That evening the disciples came to him and said, "This is a remote place, and it's already getting late. Send the crowds away so they can go to the villages and buy food for themselves."

But Jesus said, "That isn't necessary—you feed them."

"But we have only five loaves of bread and two fish!" they answered.

"Bring them here," he said. Then he

told the people to sit down on the grass. Jesus took the five loaves and two fish, looked up toward heaven, and blessed them. Then, breaking the loaves into pieces, he gave the bread to the disciples, who distributed it to the people. They all ate as much as they wanted, and afterward, the disciples picked up twelve baskets of leftovers. About 5,000 men were fed that day, in addition to all the women and children!

This boy with the fish and bread gave Jesus what he had, and it was enough. Everything we have is from God.

Inside the basket, draw pictures of things that God has given you. Parents, make sure to draw a couple of pictures as well. This is meant to be a family activity that will help your child see that we all recognize that every gift we have is from God. Pray together, thanking God for all the things He has given you.

Kickstarter 2: What can I do?

Read the story of the good Samaritan from a kids' Bible or read the following verses, **Luke 10:30-37**:

Jesus replied with a story: "A Jewish man was traveling from Jerusalem down to Jericho, and he was attacked by bandits. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him up, and left him half dead beside the road. By chance a priest came along. But when he saw the man lying there, he crossed to the other side of the road and passed him by."

"A Temple assistant walked over and looked at him lying there, but he also passed by on the other side."

"Then a despised Samaritan came along, and when he saw the man, he felt compassion for him. Going over to him, the Samaritan soothed his wounds with olive oil and wine and bandaged them. Then he put the man on his own donkey and took him to an inn, where he took care of him. The next day he handed the innkeeper two silver coins, telling him, 'Take care of this man. If his bill runs higher than this, I'll pay you the next time I'm here.'"

"Now which of these three would you say was a neighbor to the man who was attacked by bandits?" Jesus asked.

The man replied, "The one who showed him mercy."

Then Jesus said, "Yes, now go and do the same."

Ask:

What made the Samaritan good?

Get some Band-aids, ask your child the following questions, and write the answers on the Band-aids. Then place the Band-aids on a doll or action figure.

Ask:

What are you good at?

What do you like to do?

How can you help others?

Kickstarter 3: Who needs help around me?

Read the story of Jesus healing a man who couldn't walk, either from a kids' Bible or directly from **Mark 2:1-12**:

When Jesus returned to Capernaum several days later, the news spread quickly that he was back home. Soon the house where he was staying was so packed with visitors that there was no more room, even outside the door. While he was preaching God's word to them, four men arrived carrying a paralyzed man on a mat.

They couldn't bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, so they dug a hole through the roof above his head. Then they lowered the man on his mat, right down in front of Jesus. Seeing their faith, Jesus said to the paralyzed man, "My child, your sins are forgiven."

But some of the teachers of religious law who were sitting there thought to themselves, "What is he saying? This is blasphemy! Only God can forgive sins!"

Jesus knew immediately what they were thinking, so he asked them, "Why do you question this in your hearts? Is it easier to say to the paralyzed man 'Your sins are forgiven,' or 'Stand up, pick up your mat, and walk'? So I will prove to you that the Son of Man has the authority on earth to forgive sins." Then Jesus turned to the paralyzed man and said, "Stand up, pick up your mat, and go home!"

And the man jumped up, grabbed his mat, and walked out through the stunned onlookers. They were all amazed and praised God, exclaiming, "We've never seen anything like this before!"

Ask:

What did the friends do in this story?

What was wrong with their friend?

*Do you know someone who needs help?
Write that person's/people's name(s) on
the picture of the mat and pray for them.*