

Take Action: What Does the Lord Require of You?

Explore the meaning of feeding the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty, etc. Have students use the provided scenarios or create their own skits to show what taking action might look like in real life situations. The acting is followed by a group discussion.



Supplies Needed

- copy of *Scenarios: What Does the Lord Require of You?* (see next page) for each group
- space large enough for acting

Warm-up

Matthew 25:34-40 outlines specific situations in which we are invited to serve others. We will be looking at some life situations which offer opportunities for these acts of service. Groups will act out different scenarios. After all groups have finished, we will have an opportunity to discuss why the group chose to handle the situation the way they did. Note that there are no “right” endings—there are many good ways to respond to the needs we see around us.

Activity

1. Divide the students into groups of 3 or 4 and give a copy of *Scenarios: What Does the Lord Require of You?* to each group.
2. Assign a scenario to each group, and give them all 5 minutes to prepare their skits.
3. Invite the groups to take turns acting out their skits.
4. Finish with a group discussion:
 - *A phrase some people use is “Think globally and act locally.” Do you think the Lord would like us to follow this idea? Why or why not?*
 - *Could you respond to each situation in a way that would help more people?* (Brainstorm ideas for each scenario that was acted out—e.g. if the original response was to give a coat to one child, the response might expand to having a coat drive, or fundraising for an organization that provides clothing for the needy.)
 - *Could you respond to each situation in a way that connects more directly with a person who has an immediate need?* (Brainstorm for each scenario—e.g. if you wanted to hold a fundraiser for world hunger, what might you do to help a needy person you know?)
 - *In what ways has this activity made you more aware of serving others? Do you feel more called to respond to individuals or to a large group need?* (Neither is “right” or “wrong”.)
 - *If you had to answer the following question in one sentence, what would you say: How does serving other people also serve the Lord?*

SCENARIOS: WHAT DOES THE LORD REQUIRE OF YOU?

Read through your scenario. Take five minutes to make up an ending that shows what you plan to do and to decide how you will act it out with your group.

Hungry Scenario 1	<p>You are in a car with your friends. As you stop at a red traffic light in the city, a man with a sign that reads “Homeless. No job” is walking back and forth in the middle of the road. He comes up to the open window of your car and asks if you have any money to spare for food. What would you do?</p>
Thirsty Scenario 2	<p>You and other teens at your church have just finished a successful fundraiser in support of youth activities for the year. People have given generously because of all the exciting activities you have planned. An earthquake shakes a neighboring country and many people are left without homes, food or drinking water. Your funds are enough to cover the cost of water for 5000 people. What would you do?</p>
Naked Scenario 3	<p>A girl at school always wears the same clothes. Winter has arrived and it is freezing cold. You notice that her only coat has a broken zipper. Your teacher has planned a sledding and ice skating party for your class. What would you do?</p>
Stranger Scenario 4	<p>A new boy has joined your class. His family has recently come from overseas, and he does not speak your language. He wears different clothes and brings strange food for lunch. What would you do?</p>
Sick Scenario 5	<p>Early one summer you and your friends hear that a girl in your town has been diagnosed with a rare form of cancer for which there are no known treatments. Her family wants to try an experimental treatment that sounds promising, but their health insurance will not cover the cost and her family cannot afford to cover this expense. What would you do?</p>