

First Step to Service

CATHOLIC CHARITIES DIOCESE OF YOUNGSTOWN

A service-learning opportunity for students developed
by Catholic Charities, Diocese of Youngstown.

Worksheet

9 - 12

October 2021

LEARN

At every stage of life, and in every circumstance, we are held in existence by God's love. The presence of an illness, disability, or other challenging situation never diminishes the value of a human life. God does not ask us to be perfect in appearance, action, or ability, but asks us to be perfect in love. Christ invites us all to embrace our own lives and the lives of others as gifts.

When we make an effort to make a difference in the world, but yet the effort seems too small, it's important to remember that changing the culture of any society is a long process of conversion, and that it begins in each of our own hearts. We must be willing to be led by the Holy Spirit and have a desire to be "one" with Jesus.

PRACTICE

Some examples of sharing God's love are:

- Actively listening to another's perspective, even when you don't agree with their opinion.
- Being kind to someone who has been unkind to you or to others.
- Helping someone, if you are able to do so even if it is only one someone.
- Speaking up on behalf of someone who isn't able to speak up for themselves.

Take a short 15-minute break from electronics, television, movies and games today. During this break, say a prayer for someone in need. Who or what will you be praying for? Why?

- _____
- _____
- _____

Name some other examples where you might share God's love with another in your own life:

- _____
- _____
- _____

Sometimes when watching or reading the news, we see heartbreaking stories of people who do not respect life. List one example where you see someone not respecting life in recent weeks.

- _____
- _____
- _____

THINK & DISCUSS

- Think about a person that was kind to you this week. How did that make you feel?
- Now, think about a person that was NOT kind to you. (no names, please) Why do you think they acted the way that they did towards you?
- Discuss how you might behave differently the next time a person is kind, or NOT kind, to you in the future.

TAKE ACTION

- Sacrifice 30 minutes of free time providing a service to someone else. (i.e. make breakfast for the family, write a letter to a grandparent, or volunteer in your community.)

