

WAYS TO *Serve* ON YOUR OWN

We can all serve others in simple and practical ways! Here are just a few ideas for you and your family.



Babysit another mom's kids so she can have a break.



Visit with an elderly neighbor (*while there, ask if you can run any errands for them or help with anything around the house*).



Adopt a grandma or grandpa at your local nursing home and visit regularly.



Make blessing bags for our friends on the streets. You can always keep a couple in your car or make some for a local organization! Contents can include **travel size** toothpaste, toothbrush, deodorant, shampoo, comb, baby wipes etc. You can always include nonperishable food items such as granola bars, dried fruit etc.



Create a food drive for your local food bank. It can be done personally or start a drive in your home group, and friends and neighbors! Each food bank will list the most needed items on their website.



Keep a box of generic cards along with some stamps. When you think of someone, send a card(s) or text someone in need of some encouragement.



Make some cookies or goodies as a family and take them to neighbors. If you don't know them, what a great opportunity to introduce yourselves!!



Pick up trash around your neighborhood or park.



Clean out closets and playrooms so that you can donate lightly used items you don't need anymore.



Put aside a special time and surprise your family with a special meal.



On garbage day, pull everyone in the neighborhood's garbage cans back to their houses.



In a drive thru, pay for the meal of the person behind you.



When around other people, put your phone away—let those you're with know that they are important to you and that they have your full attention.



Leave a thank you note and/or present for the people we often take for granted (*policemen, fireman, paramedics, nurses, the mailman, teachers*).



Serving others can be as easy as intentionally putting other's preferences before our own!