

October 11, 2023

OCC Service Night

Read: “O Lord, You have searched me and known me. You know my sitting down and my rising up; You understand my thought afar off. You comprehend my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways.” (Psalm 139:1-3).

Watch: Video

Share:

The Lord knows all things and works in all things. He knows exactly where you are and exactly what you want and need before you even say it! All of those things matter to Him, and His greatest desire is to share His love with us. That’s why He sent His Son—because He so loved the world, He gave His only Son so that whoever believes in Him would receive the greatest gift of all—adoption into the family of God!

He can use something as simple as a bag of school supplies to show us how He cares for us.. And, we can be a part of sharing His love through prayer and giving like the boy in the video! Think about a time when you needed something like a hug, a present, or a Band-Aid®, and someone else in your life met that need. You can meet that need for another little boy or girl across the world by packing a shoebox gift and praying that it would be the perfect gift for the child who receives it.

The most important thing you can put into a shoebox is hope, joy, and love! How do you put those things into a shoebox? By praying!

Activity:

Let’s do an activity! We are going to write a prayer for a child who will receive a shoebox. We are going to see that when we send our prayers to God, He is able to hear our prayers and change things for someone else! Instructions:

- Give each child a sheet of paper and have them write a prayer on it. If they are too young to write, encourage them to draw their prayer. Allow the children to spread out and do this quietly. OR, work together to write one prayer as a group.
- OPTIONAL: Demonstrate how to fold the prayer into a basic paper airplane shape. Send it on a flight to the other side of the room. Have someone pick up the prayer(s) and then send them on to somewhere else.
- Review again how our prayers help us send hope, joy, and love to another person.

Fill Essentials Bags-

- There are supplies to put in a bag.
- Each bag should contain the supplies written on your packing list.
- Help kids make sure kids get all the supplies they need, just like they have at school.
- Take time to pray for the bags you pack as you go.
- Talk about ways God might use these small things to show a kid how much He loves them. What do the kids hope the kid who receives the bag thinks or knows? Ask kids how they are going to participate with Operation Christmas Child this year.