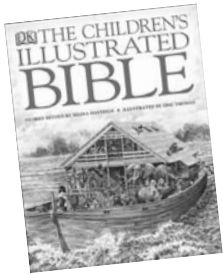


# Ordinary Time, Proper 24



*The Children's Illustrated Bible*

James and John asked Jesus for a favor. "Allow us to sit at your right hand and your left hand when you go to heaven." Jesus said, "You don't know what you're asking. In the world, the rulers and tyrants are considered the greatest, but they treat their subjects poorly. But this is not true with you. Whoever wishes to become great among you, must be your servant and slave. I came not to be served, but to serve others and to give my life for everyone."  
—Mark 10:35–45 adapted

## Kings, Peasants, and Parents

Invite kids to volunteer to serve as king, queen, duke, duchess, and other regal positions. Give each a hat or ribbon to designate their important role. Then ask someone to serve as the "servant to all." Give the servant a low footstool, a book, and other items that the royal person might ask for. Have the servant wait on the royal court for a while. Then ask: Who is most important in this kingdom? Share the story from Mark 10:35–45, then ask who Jesus considers the most important in the kingdom. What were James and John fighting over? Why did Jesus say he came to the Earth?



Sometimes our parents and others become like servants for us. They provide us with love and care to us. They feed us, enroll us in school, pay for medical care, and comfort us.

Today is National Observance of Children's Sabbaths, a day to recognize the rights of a child and to get to work doing something about it.

## A King Who Shares

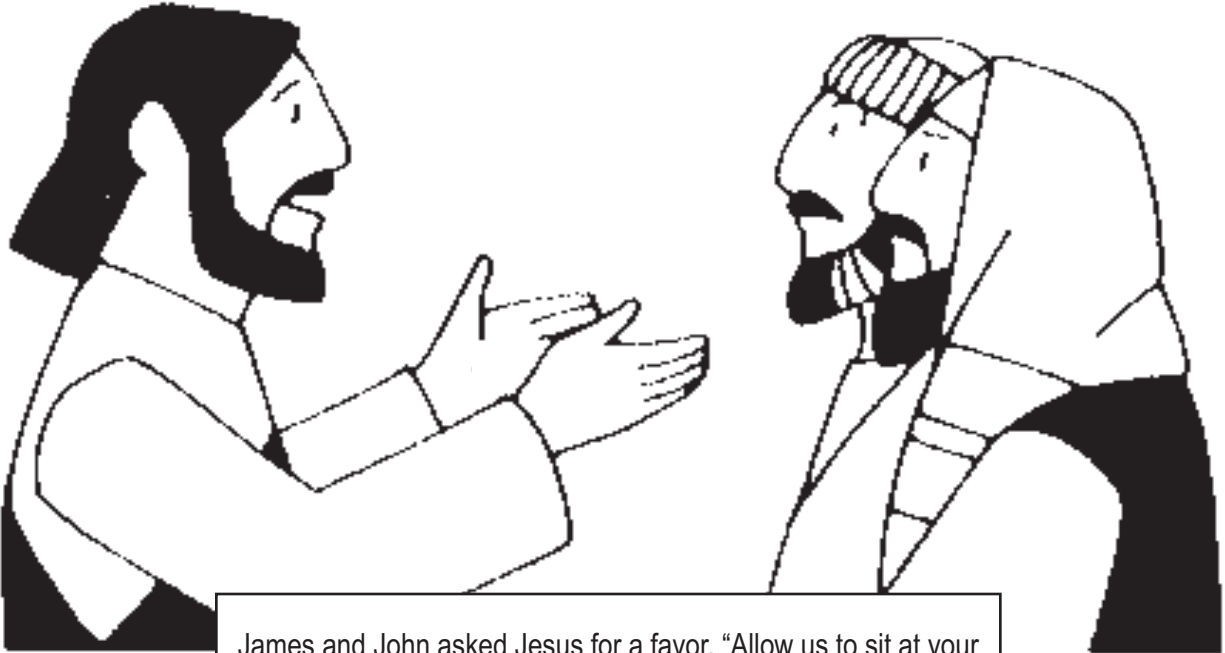
Sometimes kids in other countries are starving because their leaders will not share food with them—either food from their own land or that which was sent to them from other countries.

Choose one person to be ruler and give them a bag of treats. Ask the ruler what they would like to do with the treats in the bag (they will probably distribute one to each person, but there should still be some left). Tell them that the people in their country are starving. See if they will distribute the rest of the food. How much did they keep for themselves? Discuss how the ruler needs to be unselfish and share with the citizens to keep them happy. Was the ruler unselfish? Did the ruler take care of the people? How can you take care of others in your family, neighborhood, and school? How do you take care of your friends?

## Thanks to Caretakers

Kids can make a "thanks for caring about me" gift for their caretakers. First read Psalm 104:24 about God's great creation and then Mark 10:45 about serving others.

Choose to make either potted plants or birdhouses depending on resources and skills in your congregation. Cut out a paper people cutout on the KidsPage for each child or use another similar cutout. Have kids write on them "Thank you for taking care of me." Kids may tape or glue these to a plastic plant pot, then decorate the planters with glitter glue, markers, yarn, paper, or fabric trim. Birdhouses need to be more carefully decorated, because bird may pick off loose pieces. If birdhouses are available, use a safe paint or stain for the outside of them. Bring out the potting soil, small plants, and paper instructions for caring for each plant. (Make a copy for each kid.) Encourage kids to make this gift for their caretaker.



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## Chain of Love

Make a chain of love using the cutout as a stencil. Fold construction paper enough to make five people, and lay the cutout on top. Once you cut it out, write names of people you love or that love you on each person.

