

**NE MN Synod Discipleship Challenge:**  
**Love Like Jesus!**

**Children's Discussion Guide October 2013: GIVE!**

The NE MN Synod faith practice focus for October is *"Give."* You are encouraged to use this discussion guide with younger children in your home or as part of a Sunday school class or church children's event. As a family you might do this after a meal, for nightly devotions, as you drive from one activity to the next, on a Sunday afternoon – whenever or wherever you have the opportunity to dwell on and discuss what it means for us as individuals and as a family of faith to Love Like Jesus! There are no right or wrong answers, no right or wrong way to do this...the point is to make room in your lives for thoughtful and deliberate faith conversations.

Remember – our spiritual hunger to grow and deepen our faith has nothing to do with success, getting the "right" answer, or works. It's all about living – fully living – into the grace of God as God's children...as discipleship, following Jesus in our daily life!

Thank you for your partnership in the gospel and for your willingness to help younger children grow in their discipleship to Christ our Lord!

For more information and resources on the Discipleship Challenge:

**[www.nemnsynod.org/Discipleship](http://www.nemnsynod.org/Discipleship)**

**Love Like Jesus: GIVE!**  
**Children's Discussion Guide OCTOBER 2013**

We love because God first loved us and continues to love us! We give because God first gave to us and continues to give to us. In the Lord's Prayer, we pray for God to "give us today our daily bread." We remember in this prayer that God gives us all we need. This world is abundant with

resources to fulfill our daily needs. Some people have more than others because of issues of justice in our world. And because we are still learning how to share!! As disciples of Jesus, we are called to work for justice in the world. One way we can do this is through our giving. When we share and give to others, God's giving multiplies, we are blessed and others have what they need and are blessed too. Giving has no age requirements! We all have something to give.

**Introduction:** Have children share the best gift someone has ever given them with details about who gave it to them and how they felt when they received it. When everyone has shared, ask: ***Does God give us gifts? What gifts does God give us?***

**Story/Bible Reading:** Manna & Quails in the Wilderness (Exodus 16:1-35). If you have a story bible read the story from that bible, otherwise paraphrase the story from Exodus as you tell it to the children. Older children could take turns reading the story from the bible.

***What happened in this story? What did God do?*** (provided) ***What did the people do?***

***How does God provide for us?*** (Gives us all we need). Talk about The Lord's Prayer and the petition "Give us today our daily bread." Sometimes that means food, but it also means all that we have to live. God also calls us to share with others of the blessings we receive. Ask: ***How can you give to others?***

**Craft/Activity Suggestion:** With younger children, use playdoh or clay to create the story of manna & quail in the wilderness and have them retell the story after they finish their work. Have crackers or bread for a snack. Talk about how God continues to give to us so that we can share what we have with others. Have children offer ways they could share what they have with others.

Older children could create a collage on a large piece of paper of all the things (possessions, talents/skills) God has given them. Use whatever medium you have available (cut magazines, drawing, painting, etc). Have everyone share at least one way they can use their gifts to give to others this week.

Another idea for all ages could be to bake bread together, then give it to homebound members of the congregation, use it for holy communion, or give it to another group from your church or community.

**Closing Prayer:** Say The Lord's Prayer together, create a special action for the petition on daily bread (like extending arms and holding out hands and drawing them back to receive and then out again to give).