

**NE MN Synod Discipleship Challenge:**  
**Love Like Jesus!**  
**December 2013 Focus: SERVE**

The NE MN Synod faith practice focus for December is “*Serve*.” Below is a discussion guide that can be used in conjunction with the video teaser and Bishop Aitken’s video challenge for “*Serve*,” which can be found on the Discipleship Challenge website at [www.nemnsynod.org/Discipleship](http://www.nemnsynod.org/Discipleship). The teaser and challenge videos are meant as conversation starters...the real learning and growth takes place in your discussions that follow the videos!

You are encouraged to use these questions in your homes, during coffee hour, at ministry meetings, in youth group - 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!** The questions are arranged in a way that allows you to move deeper into the conversation as you feel comfortable. They need not be done all at once and there is no right or wrong answers. You have all month (and beyond!) to dwell on these questions. The point is to make room for some thoughtful and deliberate discussion.

And 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 disciples, following Jesus in our daily life!

Thank you for your partnership in the gospel and for your willingness to grow in your 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: SERVE!**

## **December 2013**

### **THIS MONTHS THINKER:**

**I know many of us gripe, groan, or worse at what we see as the over-commercialization of the Christmas season. And yet, it seems that no matter how far the season gets stretched by marketers, there is also a corresponding stretch of our willingness to give and to SERVE others. Especially during this time of year people always are asking, “What do you need? How can I help?” We are, all of us, wired to serve others and this season helps to expose that wiring!**

- With that being said, in what ways have you served others in the past year?
- Do you have any family traditions of serving others, especially during the holiday season?
- What real needs do you see around you (in church, your neighbors, the schools, the community) How might you answer those needs?
- Do you agree or disagree that as God’s children, we are wired to serve others? Why?
- Have you ever been discouraged in your service to others? Share
- What issues tend to call you into service?
- Is there anyone who has inspired or modeled a life of service for you? Tell the story