



## GROWTH GROUPS - SERVE TOGETHER

*For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago. Ephesians 2:10*

God wired us to make a difference in our world! And it's a great way to show our kids our faith in action. As a group, we can model our faith by doing a service project together. Every Timberlake Group Every quarter is encouraged to do one! If you need specific project ideas you can do, we have a list available. Email [groups@timberlakechurch.com](mailto:groups@timberlakechurch.com).

The best group service project ideas are:

- A product of your group's passion.
- More than just "writing a check", something that actually requires time and energy.
- Look outward at your neighborhood, community, or world.
- Something you can do right away and in one block of time.
- A result of your group praying for God's direction.
- Outside of your abilities (require God's help for success).
- Something that will result in people believing good things about Jesus and His people.

Use these guiding questions to get started:

- Do we know of someone who is in need right now? (recently widowed or divorced, having a financial emergency, dealing with a family illness...)
- Do we know of a need in our community or church?
- What "ins" or talents do we as a group have?
- What are we passionate about?

Ideas other groups have done in the past that you can use for inspiration:

- Provided meals for a family whose son was going through chemotherapy.
- Threw a baby shower for a young, single mom.
- Raised money to provide supplies for a Timberlake Missions team.
- Collected and distributed socks to the homeless.
- Baked cookies at a local home for veterans.
- Painted rooms at a local elementary school.
- Pulled weeds at a home for Alzheimer's patients.
- Did house repairs for a single mom.

Some Ideas to Serve at Church

- Send notes to church staff to encourage them and then pray for them.
- Contact the Facilities Director or the Office Staff and see what small fix-it project(s) you can help with. There is always painting, small repairs, organizing, and many little things that there is just never enough time to do.
- Volunteer as a team for a weekend in a Kidz classroom, or for the Hospitality Team. Give the regular volunteers a week off!

- Come early to church and wash the car windows of all the volunteers who come 30 minutes before service. Leave them a note to say you appreciate their serving Jesus and the church family.
- On a rainy day, bring warm drinks out to the people who serve in the church parking lot.
- We have many, many people in the middle of all kinds of struggles. Job loss, health issues, financial setbacks, etc. Contact our Care Pastor and see who you can help with yardwork, meals, notes of encouragement, a hospital visit, a trip to the grocery store or whatever way you can help...

### Some “Out-of-the-Box” group service ideas:

- Create a senior prom for a local senior home.
- Make homemade cards to give to residents at the local nursing home.
- Assist in shopping for shut-ins.
- Assist in grocery bag loading at a local shopping center.
- Collect baby equipment and supplies for new parents with limited resources.
- Organize a sock drive or a mitten, hat and scarf drive.
- Find out what a homeless shelter needs and help out.
- Repair and donate toys to a shelter or collect blankets.
- Lead a bingo game for nursing home residents.
- Volunteer at a food bank.
- Volunteer to serve food at the local soup kitchen.
- Contact the Issaquah YWCA to see what you can do to help.
- Volunteer to help tutor at Acres of Diamonds, or another organization.
- Fill a laundry basket with household items for a new family in the neighborhood.
- Mow lawns or rake leaves for an elderly family or someone facing health challenges.
- Have a garage sale and donate the money you earn to a Christ-centered charity or someone in need.
- Make, send, or deliver Valentine's cards/Christmas cards to veterans or active military on deployment.
- Pick up trash at a local park, school, or trail.
- Give away Gatorade along a hiking or biking trail.
- Help someone in need with minor house repairs.

*“We’re not nice people doing nice things, but followers of Jesus Christ who want to make a tangible difference in the lives of others and pour out His love in real ways!”*

*We have Timberlake Church t-shirts we can give you and your team if you want to wear them as you go out into the community and serve!*