

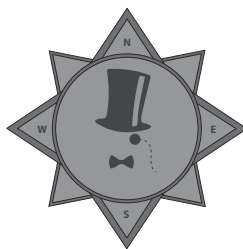
SERVING THE COMMUNITY (CHRISTMAS)

"I just love Christmas," exclaimed Jasper, "The food, the presents, the games, it's such an awesome time of the year, don't you think Balthazar?"

"Well I think all those things are really quite good, but I also think that if that's all you have, the whole holiday thing is a little empty. It probably lacks fulfilment, and I'm pretty sure it misses the point of the whole message of the season."

"What does all that mean?" asked Roland.

"Well let me explain, I think you'll see exactly what I'm talking about when I'm done."



EARN THIS NUGGET

- Discuss with your parents at least one charitable endeavour that you can do.
- Assemble a team, see if you can round up friends and family to be part of your plan.
- Go make a difference in someone's life and fulfill the reason for the season.

You see the whole reason for the season is taught in the Bible, where we read that God reached out to mankind in love and in the greatest act of charity He did for us what we could not do for ourselves.

Now when you consider that, it all seems a bit empty to think of Christmas as just a time to get new toys and eat too much food, so that's why I say that if we want true fulfilment in this season, we do it by doing exactly what God did, by reaching out in charity to others.

Now when it comes to how we reach out in charity, frankly the possibilities are endless. We can help out in soup kitchens, give gifts to children in need, create gift packages for families in impoverished areas of the world, or raise money for a local organization. Anyone who is a member of a church or local club of some sort probably has a list as long as your arm of different things that they can do that can be a blessing to others.



SERVING THE COMMUNITY

“Wow!” remarked Roland, “That totally changes my perspective on Christmas.”

“You can say that again,” chimed in Jasper, “It’s like just doing Christmas without that, seems like a total waste of time.”

“You’re right.” replied Balthazar, “But that’s where this becomes magical, because Christmas is full of such wonderful things like family, friends, gift giving and food and every one of these good things can be used to bless the community and beyond in an extraordinary way. We can go into the community and serve with our friends and family. We can use the good food to bless other families and all the wonderful skills we learn in Skill Trek can be used to bless our communities.”

“And the presents?” enquired Jasper

“Those too,” replied Balthazar. Toys and clothes can be donated and we can even budget a couple of extra gifts to donate.

“My mind is suitably blown.” replied Jasper, “ I don’t think it will ever be the same again.”

“No,” replied Balthazar, “It just became a whole lot more meaningful.”

“Never a truer word spoken, my feathered friend,” remarked Roland. “Now let’s put our heads together and see what a difference we can make this Christmas shall we?”



Companion Lessons

Level K

1514 - Raising Money for a Good Cause

1563 – Serving Community

Resources

40 Ways Kids Can Volunteer, Toddler to Teen

<https://lauragraceweldon.com/2013/06/27/40-ways-kids-can-volunteer-toddler-to-teen/>