

Cookies *for Christ*

Parents and grandparents, please paraphrase and modify to meet the age-appropriate needs, attitudes, and safety concerns of your family. Younger children can watch parents enjoying this activity to model healthy family life.

Bring happiness to someone's day and share God's love with homemade cookies.

#1 Contact a local soup kitchen to get approval for your plan. Find out the number of bags of cookies you will need to make. Place three cookies in each bag for each homeless person.

#2 Decide with your family what kind of cookies you will make. They can be either ones from a favorite family recipe or a new recipe that you decide on together.

#3 Shop together for the ingredients for your recipe and zipper-lock bags to package them.

#4 Together, bake the cookies. Younger children can assist by adding ingredients, forming dough into balls, or dropping dough from a spoon. Older children can be placed in charge of making their own batch.

#5 As you package them, take a cookie break. Talk about the people who will receive your cookies. Consider writing a verse such as John 3:16 or Isaiah 40:31 on slips of paper and placing them in the bags with the cookies.

#6 Deliver the cookies to the soup kitchen. If possible, give the bags to the individuals who are eating there. Smile and be friendly as you pass them out.



Questions: (1) What do you think is God's opinion of those who are poor?
(2) How might greed contribute to poverty?
(3) What kind of poverty exists in our community? What does God want you to do about poverty?

"Be fair to the poor and to orphans. Defend the helpless and everyone in need. Rescue the weak and homeless from the powerful hands of heartless people." — Psalm 82:3-4 (CEV)

 **faith forward**
families passing faith on

Family Momentip: Always think safety when doing this or any other activity with your family.

FIVE FAITH PROMISES: PRAYER BIBLE READING FAITH CONVERSATION **ACTS OF SERVICE** SHARED MEALTIMES & OTHER RITUALS/TRADITIONS

Komfort Kits

Parents and grandparents, please paraphrase and modify to meet the age-appropriate needs, attitudes, and safety concerns of your family. Younger children can watch parents enjoying this activity to model healthy family life.

Lessons in compassion can never start too early. Even little ones can help fill these boxes to give to children in stressful situations. Children who receive them will find comfort in the items you give them and comfort in knowing that you care.

- ◆ Contact a local crisis agency in your community to ask what would be most helpful if your family created *Komfort Kits*. Find out the ages of possible recipients and what would be appropriate as well as what would not be appropriate to place in the *Kits*.
- ◆ Share with your family the needs and reasons children need your family's help. Say something like, "There are children in our community who have faced difficult situations such as a fire in their home, parents who are ill and can't care for them, abuse or some other situation that has taken them away from their familiar circumstances. They are sad and confused. We can give them some comfort."
- ◆ Gather shoe boxes or other similar-sized boxes with lids.
- ◆ Shop with your family for items like the following to place in the boxes. These items may include things like toothpaste and toothbrush, soap, shampoo and conditioner; wash cloth, age-appropriate books, coloring book and crayons, pencils and paper, small stuffed animal or other small toy, or deck of cards.
- ◆ Pack the boxes. Include a note of encouragement or a favorite Bible verse if appropriate.
- ◆ Go as a family to take the boxes to the children. Hand them out in person if possible.
- ◆ Talk with your family about how you can be used in other ways to spread love and comfort in Jesus' name.
- ◆ Say a prayer thanking God for the opportunity to learn to be compassionate and offer comfort to these children.



 **faith forward**
families passing faith on

"Caring for the poor is lending to the Lord, and you will be well repaid." —Proverbs 17:19 (CEV)

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Socks of Love

Parents and grandparents, please paraphrase and modify to meet the age-appropriate needs, attitudes, and safety concerns of your family. Younger children can watch parents enjoying this activity to model healthy family life.

This activity will bring comfort and a smile to homeless folks in your community.

#1 Purchase inexpensive crew-length athletic socks at your local dollar store.

#2 Roll one sock and push it down into the toe of the other. Then slide a water bottle and two granola bars into the sock. Small bottles of sunscreen, lotion, hand sanitizer, and lip balm will also be appreciated. You can also include a small card wishing them a good day saying that you will remember them in your prayers.

#3 Keep several in your car so that when you are driving with your grandchildren you can hand them out to anyone in need. If you see a homeless person, ask your grandchild to hand you a sock and give it away.

#4 As you drive away, if your grand children are old enough ask one of them to say a prayer for the homeless person, if not, ask them to listen as you pray. Talk about the experience by using the questions found below.



Option: If you are doing this activity long distance you can brainstorm together items to put in the socks. Your grandchildren can take pictures to send you of them filling the socks or they can video call you while they are doing it. Talk over the questions below in a phone call after they do the activity. Pray together for the people who will receive the socks.

Questions: (1) What was it like to put together the Socks of Love for the homeless? (2) What did you feel when handing out the Socks of Love? (3) What did you learn from this experience? (4) How was Jesus honored by our actions? (5) Why might we want to do this again?

“When you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. They cannot pay you back. But God will bless you and reward you when his people rise from death.”

—Jesus in Luke 14:13-14 (CEV)

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