

## friends into serving HIM®

## teen Talk

**Q:** Softball, camp, 4H projects, swimming with friends, going to the mall — there is so much to do in so little time. My friends seem to want me to go everywhere with them, and I still want to save time for my friends at church in youth group. How can I prioritize?

**A:** Many youth groups become great ways to share Jesus and have fun all at the same time. Invite your friends to attend youth group events with you. They will hear firsthand why your church activities are so important. Not only will they have a lot of fun with another group of friends, but also learn more of Jesus, our Friend and Savior.

**Q:** Our Friends Into Serving Him® group is up and running, but we don't always have creative ideas of what to do next. Any suggestions?

**A:** I have two great answers! First, Framework for Friends, available through the LWML Catalog, is full of Bible studies, games, recipes, mite gathering ideas and more for each season of the year. The other place is right at your fingertips! Go to [www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org), and click on the Resources button. The Teen Page is filled with ideas for you.

## dilemma

Olivia | Age 17

It was my first experience of life in the city. Even with all the tall buildings, busy freeways, and new sights, it was the poverty that left the deepest impression. Parks were filled with ragged musicians playing for donations in hats. Abandoned buildings had the traces of being homes. Even the highway underpasses were filled with people seeking shelter.

One night, our group had just finished eating at a restaurant downtown when a young man approached us. He had the eyes of a man who had seen too much. His back was bent under the weight of his struggles, and his brow was creased in contemplation. An awkward moment passed and he said, "I'm begging you for anything you can spare to give."

I found myself in an uncomfortable dilemma, but I knew that giving the beggar money would not be the kind of help the man truly needed. I didn't know what to do, so I did nothing.

After we walked away, I was reminded that we are all beggars at the feet of Christ, dirty with sin, nothing to offer. Yet He gave us exactly what we needed when we needed it. (Romans 5:6) It is only with His help and allowing Him to work through us that we can begin to do the work he has for us to do. We should always be looking for ways to help others with their physical needs so that we can also help them with their spiritual needs. (1 Peter 3:15)

**Let us pray for the wisdom, courage, and compassion to share all we have been given in the most effective way.**

## news news news



Friends Into Serving Him® of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church in Mobile, Alabama, chose Penelope House as their service project. By selling baked goods, this teen LWML group was able to purchase items for the teenage guests of the Penelope House, a refuge for families affected by domestic violence.

**Photo: Jeralyn and Alexandria present the gift basket to the night counselor of Penelope House.**

Send your news, ideas and photos to LWQ Teen News, [readersrespond@lwml.org](mailto:readersrespond@lwml.org)