

Scripture Reading

Galatians 5:13–14 CEV

¹³ My friends, you were chosen to be free. So don't use your freedom as an excuse to do anything you want. Use it as an opportunity to serve each other with love. ¹⁴ All the Law says can be summed up in the command to love others as much as you love yourself.

Memory
Verse
Challenge

Memorize the highlighted verses. *Who will be first to commit these verses to memory?*

Serve In Love: A Summer Family Challenge (Cont.)

June – Start Close: Serve Your Post & Neighbors

Focus: *Loving those right where you're stationed*

- Bring treats to a neighbor, especially a family who recently moved in
- Write encouraging notes or chalk messages for military families nearby to see
- Help another family with yard work, moving in, or unpacking
- Introduce yourself to someone new on post or in housing

July – Support Your Military Community

Focus: *Serving those who serve and support*

- Create snack bags or cool drinks for gate guards, security forces, or first responders
- Donate to or volunteer with a post chapel, family support center, or local pantry
- Thank someone who serves behind the scenes (spouses, childcare workers, commissary staff)
- Pick up trash or help clean a shared space on post or in your neighborhood

August – Encourage the Deployed & Hurting

Focus: *Compassion for those far from home or going through hard seasons*

- Send care packages to deployed service members
- Write letters or draw pictures for deployed troops or military kids far from a parent
- Give gently used toys or clothes to families in transition or need
- Pray for deployed parents, families in transition, or those facing long separations. Tell them you're praying for them.

KINDA SECRET

MILITARY FAMILY MISSION

★ **HERO SQUAD**

MISSION MANUAL

ISSUED FOR
SUMMER MISSION
Serving Up Summer Love

Activity Instructions

Step 1: As a family, read this quarter's Scripture passages (back) and "Living Free, Loving Big" (below).

Step 2: Use the Family Discussion Questions (right) to apply these passages to your lives.

Step 3: Take the Memory Verse Challenge and complete the family activity to serve in love this summer!

Living Free, Loving Big

Freedom is something military families understand deeply. It is not just an idea, but a reality shaped by sacrifice and commitment. Military life often shows us that serving something greater than ourselves means laying down personal preferences, plans, and comforts.

In Galatians 5:13–14, we see a similar truth: freedom in Christ means we are set free not to live for ourselves, but to serve one another through love. What seems like a contradiction is the beauty of the gospel—true freedom is found not in self-centered independence, but in choosing love, humility, and service.

We have a unique opportunity to live out that freedom by looking outward to neighbors, fellow service members, and those

quietly carrying burdens of their own.

Serving in love doesn't require grand gestures. Simple acts like checking on a family during deployment, volunteering together, or inviting someone who lives alone to dinner can powerfully reflect God's love.

As a family, you can model what it means to love others well, turning everyday moments into ministry. In a world that defines freedom as doing whatever we want, Christ shows us a better way: freedom expressed through joyful service.

This summer, let your freedom be a testimony of compassion. In serving your community with love, you reflect Jesus's heart and remind others that true freedom is found in Christ alone.

Family Discussion Questions

Eagle Squad

- What does it mean to be kind? How can you show me with your actions?
- How do you feel when someone helps you? How do you think others feel when you help them?

JV Squad

- Can you think of a time when you chose to help someone instead of doing what you wanted? What happened?
- How do you think serving others helps us grow in our faith?

Varsity Squad

- In what ways can freedom be misused in everyday life? What might that look like for someone your age?
- What are some real obstacles (time, comfort, fear, etc.) that keep you from serving others? How can you overcome them?

Serve In Love: A Summer Family Challenge

Directions: Place your service tracker on the fridge and choose one day in June, July, and August to complete a family service challenge using the suggested ideas—or create your own together. After each challenge, celebrate and record in your tracker how your family served others in love. At the end of summer, hold a family reflection night to share favorite service moments, pray for your unit, community, and deployed members, and ask how your family can keep serving wherever you go next. **(Activity cont. on back)**



Don't Forget!

Have you checked out our **Digital Resource Library** yet? Just scan the QR code with your phone to access it.

There you will find all of our Hero Squad children's devotionals and family activities available for download. Check it out today for Bible-based fun on the go!



SERVE IN LOVE

Summer Family Challenge Tracker

Serve one another humbly in love. -Galatians 5:13

LOVE YOUR NEIGHBORS

	Completed?	What We Did	Who We Served
JUNE	☐ Yes ☐ No		

SERVE YOUR COMMUNITY

	Completed?	What We Did	Who We Served
JULY	☐ Yes ☐ No		

ENCOURAGE SOMEONE

	Completed?	What We Did	Who We Served
AUGUST	☐ Yes ☐ No		