

Full Mending! Series

Joining with God in mending
a beautiful, broken world.

1. **Renewing:** Galatians 5:16–17, 22–26
It starts with us.
2. **Relating:** Matthew 4:18–22
It's always about relationships.
3. **Restoring:** Luke 4:14–21
It's about the whole Gospel for the whole world.
4. **Responding:** John 1:35–42
It's about availability.



Mending!

Youth Activity 3: Serve your Community

Mending! Theme: Restoring

Key Scripture: Luke 4:14–21

Time: 30 mins - 2 hours

Aim: To engage youth in a service-oriented activity that embodies the concept of restoration as outlined in Luke 4:14–21, emphasising the holistic nature of the Gospel and its impact on the local community.

Activity Steps

1. Brainstorm ideas*

- » Divide youth into small groups and give each group a piece of paper, markers and a map of your local area
- » Read Luke 4:14–21 and talk about the holistic Gospel message of love, compassion and social justice that Jesus exemplifies in it.
- » Invite each group to brainstorm ideas of how they could respond to needs within the local community. *Where is restoration needed? Where can you see opportunities to share God's love in practical ways?*

Here are some examples:

- Pick up rubbish in your local neighbourhood, park or school (30 mins)
- Write letters of advocacy for a marginalised group or specific need in your community. Include ways your relevant local, state or federal member can make a positive change. (30 mins)
- Put together hampers for a local foodbank (1 hour)
- Run a church service at a retirement village (2 hours)
- Volunteer at a food shelter (2 hours)
- Bake cupcakes or cookies for teachers at your local school, or nurses at your local hospital (2 hours)

* Do this part in the week *before* you run this activity, so you can prepare properly for the actual serving (i.e. have equipment, materials and permissions needed).

For a shorter version of this activity, skip this step and simply give the youth 2-3 options of service.

2. Serve your community!

Actually go out and do what you have planned!

3. Celebrate and share

Celebrate and share experiences within the youth group, and with the wider church.

- » In small groups, encourage youth to share their experiences, challenges faced and lessons learned.
- » Facilitate a discussion on how they participated in God's mission of restoration and healing through their service. Bring it back to Luke 4:14–21 and the holistic (word and deed) Gospel Jesus talks about.
- » Invite some youth to share their experiences with the wider church during a service.

4. Continued engagement

Leaders: How can youth continue engaging in service-oriented community activities beyond this initial activity? Are there ways this can be built into your youth group as a regular expression of God's love and care for all?

Go Deeper

To extend the session or explore the theme of Restoring in your small groups, do the activity alongside questions, explorations and prayers in the May Mission Month Pastor's and Leaders Guide.



Use the QR code, or navigate to the Pastor's and Leader's Guide on this page:
www.baptistmissionaustralia.org/MMM/Resources