

Feet on the Pavement

The Hands-On Service Night Launch Kit

Your 3-week countdown from “we should do a service night” to “boots on the ground.”

SCRIPTURE FOCUS

James 2:17 • 1 John 3:18

BOTTOM LINE

God didn’t call us to talk about love. He called us to show it.

WHAT THIS NIGHT IS

The optional Week 5 capstone for Quarter 3, *Feet on the Pavement*, is unlike any other night in ROOTED. Instead of a game and a lecture, you **replace the standard lesson format entirely** and let students spend the night physically doing a service project together — then debrief what it felt like to put faith into action.

WHY IT NEEDS A LAUNCH KIT

A service night can easily devolve into unstructured chaos, or into a boring chore, if it isn’t framed correctly. It also can’t be pulled together at the last minute: it takes **weeks of logistics** — collecting supplies, briefing adult leaders, and getting students genuinely fired up. Work this kit in order and, by the time students walk through the door, the hard part is already done.

Leader Note: The night itself — Mission Briefing, Serving Operation, Debrief, and Commissioning — is in the September chapter. This appendix covers everything that has to happen **before** the doors open.

YOUR COUNTDOWN AT A GLANCE

 3 WEEKS OUT <i>The Supply Launch</i>	 2 WEEKS OUT <i>The Hype</i>	 1 WEEK OUT <i>Parent Logistics</i>	 THE NIGHT <i>The Atmosphere Shift</i>
Pick your stations, brief your adult leaders, and launch the donation drive to parents and the congregation. ▶ Page 230	Frame the night for students so it lands as a mission, not a chore. ▶ Page 231	Send the text or email that gets every student there in the right shoes. ▶ Page 231	Turn the room into a workshop and hit play on the work-rhythm music. ▶ Page 232

◆ THE NIGHT AT A GLANCE

60 minutes, start to finish	3–4 Impact Teams, adult-led	2–3 service stations to choose	20:00 on the countdown clock
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3 WEEKS OUT: The Supply Launch

[START HERE](#)

Whether your students end up packing care packages, writing encouragement cards, cleaning the church grounds, or making fleece blankets, none of it happens without supplies. **Launch a donation drive to parents and the congregation three weeks early** so nobody is scrambling to a store the afternoon of.

◆ STEP-BY-STEP LAUNCH CHECKLIST



Choose 2–3 stations. Pick from the lesson's Station A, B, and C based on your church's current needs and available budget.



Assign an adult leader to every station. They'll be working alongside students, not supervising from a distance. Tell them now so they can plan.



Build your supply list and set a goal. Plan for 3–4 Impact Teams. Use the tracker below and count your students so the goal is real.



Set up a collection spot. A clearly labeled bin or table in the lobby. Announce a drop-off deadline: everything in by 3 days before the night.



Announce the drive. Send it to parents and to the congregation (bulletin, email, or from the stage). A ready-to-send version is below.



Check the tally at one week out. Use a small budget to buy whatever didn't come in so no station is short on the night.



Gather and pre-sort at 3 days out. Bring every donation into one room and sort it into a labeled bin for each station.

◆ SUPPLY & DONATION TRACKER

STATION	PROJECT	WHAT TO ASK THE CONGREGATION FOR	GOAL	IN
A	Care Packages for the Homeless Leader: _____	Ziploc bags · bottled water · socks · granola bars · toothbrushes · blank paper for a handwritten note of encouragement in every bag	_____	_____
B	Teacher / First Responder Encouragement Leader: _____	Blank cards · markers · gift cards or treats for local school teachers, or for the local fire or police station	_____	_____
C	Facility Deep Clean Leader: _____	Disinfecting wipes · trash bags · brooms · window cleaner · work gloves for the outdoor crew (pulling weeds)	_____	_____



DONATION DRIVE ANNOUNCEMENT · Bulletin / Email / Stage

On [date], our students are putting their faith into action with a Hands-On Service Night — and we'd love your help! Between now and [deadline], we're collecting [items]. Drop donations at [location]. Every single item will go directly into the hands of someone in our community. Thank you for helping our students show love, not just talk about it!

2 WEEKS OUT: The Hype

FRAME THE NIGHT

How you introduce the night decides how students walk in. Frame it as a **mission**, never as a chore. Use the words below almost exactly. They were written to sound like a challenge, not an assignment.

X DON'T SAY

"We are doing chores next week."

✓ SAY THIS

"Next week we are putting our boots on. We're taking over the building/community to prove that love is an action word."

◆ HYPE TOOLKIT

- **Give it a name.** "Boots On" works well. Put it on a slide, a poster, and the group chat so students hear it everywhere.
- **Show, don't just tell.** Hold up a finished sample care package or a pair of work boots when you announce it.
- **Repeat it every week.** One line at the end of each meeting: "Next week we're putting our boots on." Momentum is the goal.
- **Let students shape it.** If a student floats a genuine service idea in small group, write it down and bring it to planning. Student-generated service is far more powerful than leader-assigned service.

1 WEEK OUT: Parent Logistics

SEND IT NOW

One short, clear message closes the loop with parents and prevents the two most common night-of problems: wrong shoes and wrong clothes.

TEXT / EMAIL TO PARENTS

Next Wednesday is our Hands-On Service Night! Please make sure your student wears closed-toe shoes and clothes they don't mind getting dirty. We will be active from start to finish!

Swap in your meeting day. For an email version, add the start and end times and a final call for donations.

ADULT LEADER BRIEFING · Send to every station leader

Thank you for serving with our students on [date]! You'll be leading [Station A / B / C], and you'll be working alongside students, not supervising from the side. Please arrive by [time] to help finish setup. Your job on the night: keep the energy high, keep your team's checklist moving, and model the posture we've spent all of September teaching. When the countdown ends, sit down with your team for the debrief.

◆ ONE-WEEK-OUT CHECKLIST

- ☐ **Parent message sent.** Text or email, whichever your parents actually read.
- ☐ **Every station leader confirmed and briefed.** Each one knows their station, their supplies, and that they're serving alongside students.
- ☐ **Donation tally checked.** Fill any gaps now, not the afternoon of.
- ☐ **Team checklists printed.** One per Impact Team, listing every task to finish before the countdown hits zero.

THE NIGHT: The Atmosphere Shift

DOORS OPEN

The moment students walk in, the room should tell them tonight is different. Play energetic, blue-collar “work rhythm” music. Have tables pre-staged with materials like assembly lines. **The physical environment should look like a workshop, not a lecture hall.**

	LECTURE HALL (not tonight)	WORKSHOP (tonight)
The Room	Chairs in rows, everyone facing front	Chairs pushed to the walls; open floor and work tables
The Sound	Quiet pre-service background music	Driving, upbeat “work rhythm” music the moment students walk in
The Supplies	Boxes stacked in the corner	Pre-staged in order, like an assembly line, ready to grab
The Leaders	Standing up front with notes	Sleeves up, working alongside students at every station
The Screen	Slides and Scripture	The 20-minute countdown timer, front and center

NIGHT-OF SETUP CHECKLIST

- ☐ **Clear the floor.** Push chairs to the walls and set work tables for each station.
- ☐ **Stage every table like an assembly line.** Lay materials out in the order students will use them (bag, water, socks, snack, note) so the work flows left to right.
- ☐ **Post station signs and team checklists.** One printed checklist for each Impact Team, and a large sign at every station.
- ☐ **Cue the countdown timer and the music.** Timer set to 20:00 on the big screen. Playlist queued and speakers tested.

Music Tip: Build a playlist of driving, steady-tempo tracks with clean lyrics, long enough that it never runs out. Keep it playing through the briefing **and** the entire serving operation.

After the Night: Take a group photo of the finished care packages, the clean space, or the written cards, and send it to parents with Matthew 25:40. Then deliver what students made within the week, so they see where their work went.

★ QUARTER 3 CLOSING HERE ★

You were not saved to sit. You were saved to serve.

Send them into October with momentum, and with hands that already know what it feels like to help.