

Great Dresser Clean Out

By Christy Huffman

As the seasons change, so do the wardrobe needs of your family. While trying on summer clothes, separate the ones that no longer fit and plan a way for other people to use them.

For

Young Family

Season

Summer

Needed

Bags or boxes, Bible



Prepare in Advance

Choose a time when all family members will be available to try on their summer clothes.

Activity Plan

1. Turn in your Bible to Matthew 25:34-40 and read it aloud, or read it from the text below.

Matthew 25:34-40

³⁴ Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. ³⁵ For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶ I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.' ³⁷ Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? ³⁸ And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? ³⁹ And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' ⁴⁰ And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'

2. Discuss: Why do you think Jesus says that when we feed or clothe other people, it's like we are feeding or clothing him?
3. Ask each person to try on his or her summer clothes and set aside anything that does not fit or will not be worn for some other reason.
4. As a family, gather all the clothes that will not be worn. Decide which, if any, need to be saved to hand down to other family members. Place these in storage.
5. Talk about who might be able to use the remaining clothes in the pile. Explain there are many people who are happy to receive gently used clothes. As a family, decide if the clothes you no longer need will be given to a specific family or to an organization in your community that gives clothing to people in need or operates a thrift store to raise money for its ministry.
6. Say the following blessing over the clothes you will donate:

Gracious God, we give you thanks for the many blessings you give us, including clothes to wear. Thank you for the many days we were able to wear these clothes. Bless the people who will be the next ones to wear these clothes. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

