

101 Acts of Kindness

Here are some suggestions to get your small group or ministry team started in compassionate outreach

From 101 Ways to Reach Your Community, by Steve Sjogren

Level 1: The Blitz

1. Soft Drink Giveaway
2. Gasoline Buydown
3. Donut Giveaway during Morning Traffic
4. Assorted Giveaways
 - Find something that relates specifically to your community
 - Have more than could possible be needed
5. Dollar Drop or Quarter Drop
 - Attach a connection card with a note to the effect of “This dollar is for you – because God loves you!” to a dollar and drop on a sidewalk or in a mall. Or, attach a sticker with a similar note on the back of a quarter and leave in coin returns in vending machines or penny trays at stores.
6. Dollar Tipping of Restaurant Servers
 - Bring extra one dollar bills to a restaurant, each with a contact card attached. Randomly hand them out to passing waiters or waitresses.
7. Trash Pick-Up with “Kindness in Progress” Signs
8. Twenty-Dollar Outreach Experiment
 - Have each person in group do some sort of outreach during the week, each investing \$20 in it – encourage creativity in making up an outreach. Next week, discuss the outreaches and how they went. Good for getting ideas of what works in your area of town.
9. Newspaper Giveaway
10. Coffee / Hot Chocolate / Cappuccino Giveaway
11. Stamp Giveaway in Front of Post Office
 - Best on Tax Day or when stamp rates change
12. Business Blast
 - Go into local workplaces with little gifts to show Christ’s love to the workers
 - Christmas is a highly effective time of the year
13. Grocery Bag Packing
 - Bag groceries and take out to peoples’ cars.
14. Grocery Cart Escort and Return
15. Popsicles / Ice Cream Giveaway
16. Ice Cream Coupons
17. Hand Cleaning Towelettes
18. Vinyl Gloves at Gas Stations
19. Windshield Washing
20. Parking Meter Feeding
21. Drinks at Biking Trails
22. Pens, Pencils, and Post-It Notes Giveaway



- Great for college campus registration day
- 23. Photocopying
- 24. Computer Diskettes Giveaway
 - Works well with the Pen, Pencil, and Post-It giveaway
- 25. Drinks at Intramural or Greek Events
- 26. Breakfast Toaster Pastries Giveaway
- 27. Exam Answer (Scantron) Sheets Giveaway
 - Most effective around midterm or finals week at a college campus, if the college requires students to bring their own Scantrons.
- 28. Phone Cards for Long-Distance Calls

- 29. "Biggie Size" Food Orders at Fast Food Drive-Throughs
- 30. Suntan Lotion Giveaway
- 31. Surf Wax
- 32. Mother's Day Carnation Giveaway
- 33. Church Match Book Giveaway
- 34. Watermelon / Pumpkin / Cantaloupe Giveaway
- 35. Boxes to Merchants
 - Gift boxing and wrapping during holidays at chain retailers
- 36. Scotch Tape Giveaway at Christmas
- 37. Flower Seed Packet Giveaway
- 38. Golf Tee or Golf Ball Giveaway / Golf Ball Cleaning
- 39. Glow-in-the-Dark Necklace Giveaway

Level 2: Connecting to the Community

- 40. Totally Free Carwash
- 41. Interior Car Cleaning and Vacuuming
- 42. Oil Changes for Single Parents
- 43. Car Drying at Self-Serve Car Washes
- 44. Windshield Washer Fluid Fill
- 45. Windshield Ice Scraping
- 46. Windshield Washing at Self-Serve Gas Stations
- 47. Bike Fix-Up Clinic
- 48. Restroom Cleaning
- 49. Umbrellas Escort
- 50. Neighborhood Food Collection and Distribution
 - Go door to door collecting canned food for a food pantry. Invite people to a party for giving the food away.
- 51. Business Window Washing
- 52. Polaroid Photos
- 53. Shoeshines
- 54. Helium Balloons and Balloon Animals
- 55. Dog Washing
- 56. Doggie Dirt Cleanup
 - Go door to door in your neighborhood asking to clean up doggie droppings

57. Dorm Move-In Help
58. Coffee, Tea, and Lattes during Late-Night Study Sessions
59. Soft Drinks, Gatorade, and Lemonade at Class Sign-Up
60. Pizza on Move-In Day at Dorms
61. Christmas Gift-Wrapping
62. Meal Purchasing at Restaurants
63. Door-to-Door Sunday Morning Paper and Coffee
64. Filter Change for Air-Conditioners and Heaters
65. Garage Cleaning
66. Leaf Raking
67. Lawn Mowing
68. Roof Gutter Cleaning
69. Address Number Painting on Cubes
70. Garbage Can Return from Street
71. Tulip Bulbs and Potted Plants
 - Offer to plant bulbs or place potted plants (3-4 per household) at a location of the homeowner's choosing. Place a weatherproof sign next to it with the church's information and a message such as "Planted by ____ Church ... Small Things done with Great Love will Change the World."
72. Snow Removal from Walks and Drives
73. Ice Melting for Sidewalks
74. Window Washing
75. Light Bulb Replacement
76. Fireplace Ash Removal
77. Smoke Detector Battery Replacement
78. Library Fines Payment
79. Winter / Summer Survival Kits
80. Christmas Tree Giveaway or After-Christmas Tree Collection
81. Laundromat Washer and Dryer Payment
82. Cocoons on Good Friday
 - Purchase butterfly cocoons scheduled to hatch on Easter Sunday. On Good Friday, give the cocoons out to shoppers and business people to take home to their families. Give a connection card explaining the similarity to the resurrection of Christ.
83. Friendly Pet Outreach to Convalescent and Retirement Homes
84. "Free Prayer" Table at Fairs

Level 3: Investing in the City

85. Matthew's Party
 - Invite the neighborhood to a big cookout and raffle in celebration of what Jesus has done for you.
86. Block Party
87. Lamb's Lunch
 - Serve a free hot meal for the homeless. Try to do this during daylight hours to minimize risks.
88. Parties of Appreciation for Police Officers, Fire Fighters, EMTs.



89. Accident Scene Cleanup
90. Single Parent's House Repair
91. Blood Pressure Screening
92. Tutoring
93. School Supplies for Needy Families
94. Dorm Room Cleaning
95. Shopping Assistance for Shut-Ins
96. Apartment Move-Out Help
97. Birthday Party Organizing
 - Very effective at convalescent homes. Plan a party for everyone whose birthday was that week or month.
98. Memorial Service for the Unchurched
 - Offer services to run a memorial service for those in the community without a church. Serve as volunteer chaplains at a local hospital.
99. Move-In Welcoming Party
100. Pool Party with a Purpose!
101. Birthday Cards