

This project is a great way to stir up interest in outreach, and provide a little mystery at the same time, something your teens will not soon forget. Called "Destination Unknown" because you let God determine where you actually go. The object is to take your group to a town, large or small, with the purpose of finding someone who needs a helping hand. It may be painting a house, or cleaning up a yard. Perhaps it is nothing more than spending time with an elderly person and sharing God's love.

On strips of paper, write numbers from 5 to 50 by 5's (5, 10, 15, 20, etc.) and put them in a bag.

Then on different strips of paper, write the following directions: N, NE, ENE, E, ESE, SE, S, SW, W, NW, etc. and place them in a different bag.

Then, when you are all together in the church parking lot, packed and ready to go, select a distance and a direction from the bags. Plot the exact location on a map, and head out.

Once there, find the nearest town. If you end up in a larger town or city, go to the sub-division or section of town that matches the coordinates. Remember, your destination is from God, and he has a purpose for your group to be there.

It may take a while to find the person or family with a need. Look around. Ask around. Perhaps the local church can help. You may get a few skeptical responses, or even rejection, but remember this is all part of it. People are not used to a bunch of teens coming into town only with the purpose of working free for the glory of God. However, once you find that divine appointment and share God's love in a meaningful way, everyone in your group will experience spiritual growth like never before.

1. Go to a nursing home and visit the residents there. Just talk to them or prepare a small gift to give them.

2. Go to a local restaurant and ask if you can clean their bathrooms. They won't believe you asked!

3. Get a rake, some yard waste bags, and head off some fall and rake as many leaves as you can for elderly or disabled individuals in your community.

4. Go to a grocery store and be a volunteer cart pusher. Watch for people putting groceries in their cars and ask if you can take their carts for them.

5. Go to a local gas station as a group and offer to pump peoples gas and wash their windows. They'll look at you like your crazy, but they might just let you do it.

6. Have a totally free car wash. Don't accept donations. Don't charge a dime. Just wash cars. It'll bless others and be fun, too.

7. Get together with some friends and go grocery shopping for a needy family. Pitch in a few dollars each and see how far you can stretch the money. This is a great idea around Thanksgiving or Christmas.

8. Go with a group and go door to door in your neighborhood. When people answer the door, simply ask, "Is there something I can do for you today?" Who knows what they'll ask or how they'll be surprised someone offered!

9. Have a date night for parents in your church or community and provide babysitting at no cost. Prepare games, crafts, and activities for the kids. Give parents at least 3 or 4 hours to go out together.

10. Go to a children's hospital in your area and visit the kids there. Many places would let you put on a small program (games, skits, etc.). Those who are sick really need a boost and this is a great way to do it. Don't wait for a holiday—do it any time!

