

Volunteers

Word Forms:

- volunteer (n) A person who works but does not want to receive money is called a volunteer.
- volunteer (v) Some parents volunteer some of their time to help at their children's schools.
"Who wants to volunteer to wash the dishes?" Mrs. Wilson asked her children.
- voluntary (adj) The governments of most western countries say that believing in a religion should be a voluntary decision—no one should be forced to follow a certain religion.
- voluntarily (adv) George voluntarily helped his neighbors when they moved to a different house.

Related Words:

- give (v) "I can give some of my time to help you," said Natalie.
 - offer (v) Joan offered to watch Wendy's children while Wendy went shopping.
 - donate (v) Some people like to donate their time at churches or other places that help people.
 - help (v) People usually volunteer their time because they want to help people.
 - for free (adv) Volunteers work for free—they don't receive any money.
 - freely (adv) Volunteers freely give their time to help others.
 - (one's) own free will Danny washed the dishes of his own free will—his mother didn't force him to do it.
 - willing (adj) Danny was very willing to help his mother wash the dishes.
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- get paid (v) Volunteers don't get paid for the work that they do.
 - salary (n) The monthly or yearly amount of money you receive for working is your salary.

Exercises:

1. Jonathan enjoys _____ his sister pick up her toys.
2. "Is Cindy a _____, or does she _____?"
3. Every Tuesday Lynn _____ her time at the hospital.

Questions:

1. What kinds of things do volunteers do in your home country?
2. Have you ever been a volunteer before? If so, tell about your experience.
3. What would you think if someone volunteered to die for you, in order to save your life?

Bible Readings:

1. "When Christ came to the world, he said to God... 'I have come to do what you want me to do.' And this is what he did when he died on a cross... Our sins are washed away and we are made clean because Christ gave his own body as a gift to God." (Hebrews 10:5,9-10, NEW LIFE Version)
2. "[Christ Jesus] always had the nature of God, but he did not think that by force he should try to remain equal with God. Instead of this, of his own free will he gave up all he had, and took the nature of a servant. He became man... was humble, and walked the path of obedience all the way to death—his death on the cross." (Philippians 2:6-8, TEV)
3. Jesus said, "[I] did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give [my] life as a ransom for many." (Mark 10:45, NIV)

Questions:

1. In what ways is Jesus like a volunteer? (all readings)
2. A volunteer usually gives or offers some of his or her time. What did Jesus give? (all readings)

3. A volunteer usually gives his or her time to help others. How did Jesus' gift help us? (all readings)