



Teaching *for*
TRANSFORMATION

Table Talk with Tandy Parent Meeting 5-8th-grade

Tandy Hicks, Middle School Principal





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Deep Hope:

Our deep hope is that the members of our GCS community will experience the love of God in such a way that it ignites a hunger and a thirst for righteousness so that they will desire to live their lives as an offering to Him.



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Essential Learning Targets:

- ◉ I can craft a definition of service.
- ◉ I can identify real work, real needs, and real people in my community that my family can serve.
- ◉ I can imagine how throughlines shape the learning at GCS.



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Curricular Outcomes:

School Mission: To assist Christian families in educating, equipping, and encouraging their children to influence the world for Christ.

Standard Operation Objectives: Establish a system of more intentional contact and training of parents



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Habits of Learning:

Joy-Filled Collaborating: Parents work together in groups to identify people and places that their families can serve.

Curious Thinking: Parents will learn that serving is one of the ways that we show love to one another. Parents will also think about what it means to serve and consider what value serving has in their families.



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See God's Story:

Jesus came to earth to redeem his people from their sinful state. He didn't come to judge the world as many people thought he would, but he came to save the world. While here on earth, Jesus compelled His disciples to follow the most important commandment of all: to love your neighbor as yourself. Unfortunately, our society puts more emphasis on loving yourself more than others. This lesson invites parents to help their families understand what love is and how love is demonstrated as stated in 1 Peter 4: 8-11.



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Storyline: Love like Jesus

According to 1 Peter 4:8-11
Loving Lavishly or deeply
involves serving, giving,
showing hospitality, and
encouraging others.

Love **Like** **Jesus +**

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Learning Targets

- ☐ I can imagine how throughlines invite learners to be a part of God's story.
- ☐ I can imagine how throughlines shape learning at GCS.
- ☐ I can craft a definition of service.
- ☐ I can identify real work, real needs, and real people in my community that my family can serve.

Service

Mother Theresa
Willing work
Great Commandment
Hospitality
Joy
Humility
Selflessness
Sacrifice
Compassion
Volunteer

The People and Places My Family Can Serve...

- Feed the homeless
- Foodbank of Tyler
- Operation Christmas Child
- Salvation Army
- Lunch for First Responders
- Take out neighbors trash



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Throughlines:

Throughline #1: Community Builders

Parents are given the opportunity to equip, educate, and encourage their students to influence and rebuild their community.

Throughline #2: Servant Workers

Parents will identify ways that their families can show love to others by serving them.

Throughline #3: Justice Seeker

Parents will help restore justice to those who are in need.



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Formational Learning Experience:

Real Needs: There are many needs that people have in society. The recent devastations of COVID-19 and the various weather disasters have left people hurting in various ways. Resources are low and people are in need.

Real People: People in the community

Real Work: That's what we will explore together – parents and administration.



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Formational Learning Experience, cont.:

This was not only a time to do Real Work as a parent/administrator community. It was also a time to teach our school families about Teaching for Transformation.

Real Needs: Parents needing to understand TfT as it was new this year

Real People: School families

Real Work: As they attended “Table Talks with Tandy”, parents would not only hear about the topics for the monthly meetings, but also learn about TfT through engaging in protocols and a FLEx together.



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INVITE

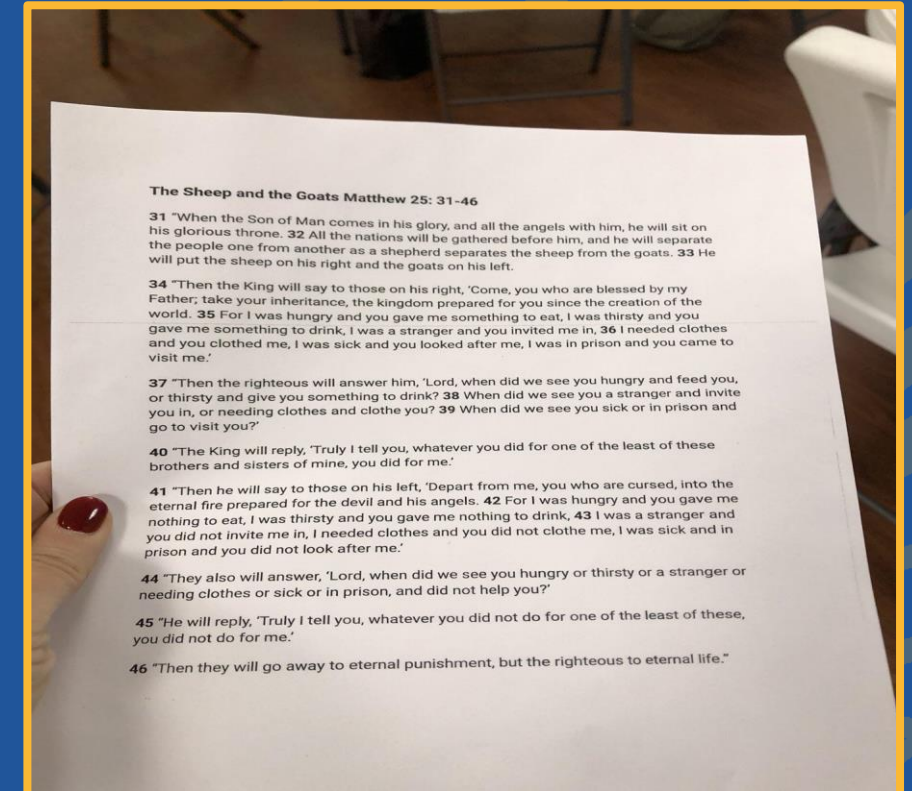
Parents were interested in understating what TfT is all about during our first year of implementation. So, instead of just telling them about it, I decided to show them by walking through protocols and a FLEx with them during our monthly Table Talks with Tandy.



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INVITE, cont.

Parents were invited into the storyline of Love Like Jesus through Scripture reading at an Opening Circle time. This led us to discuss service as an act of love.

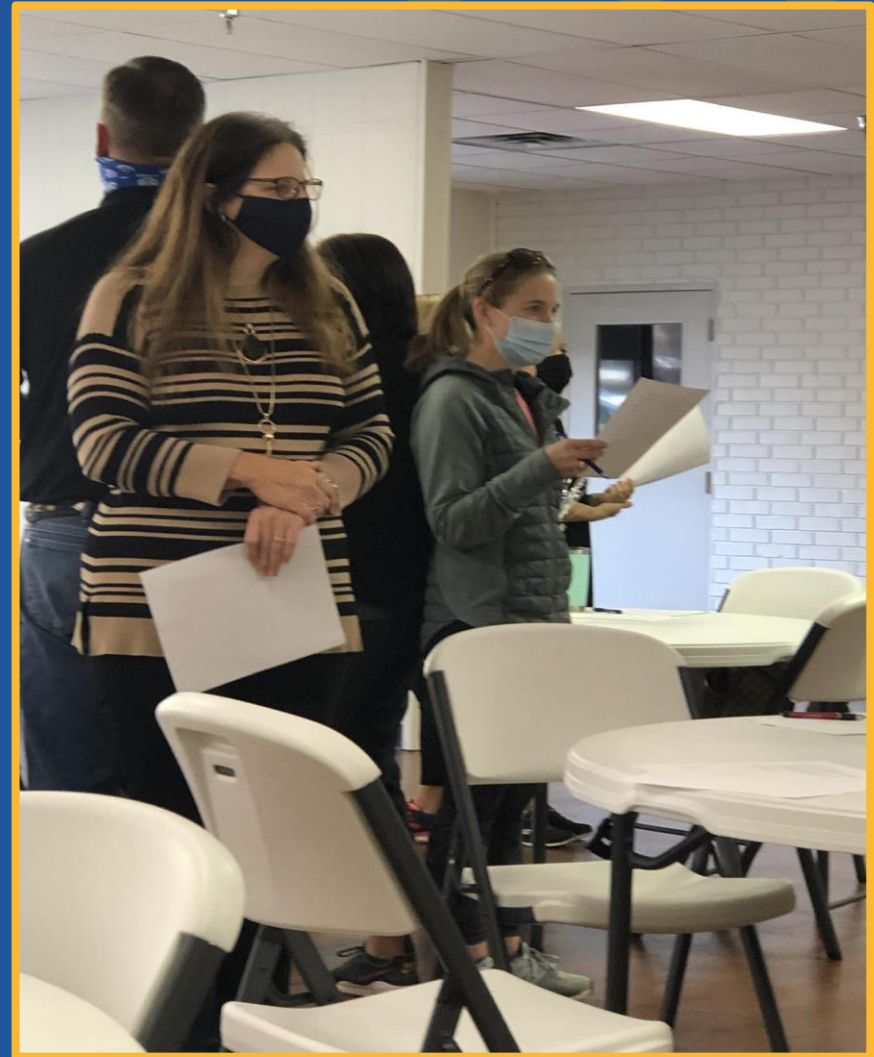




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NURTURE

- Parents explored quotes about service during a gallery walk.
- They engaged in back-to-back face-to-face discussions about each quote.
- They then collaborated to create a word cloud about service.

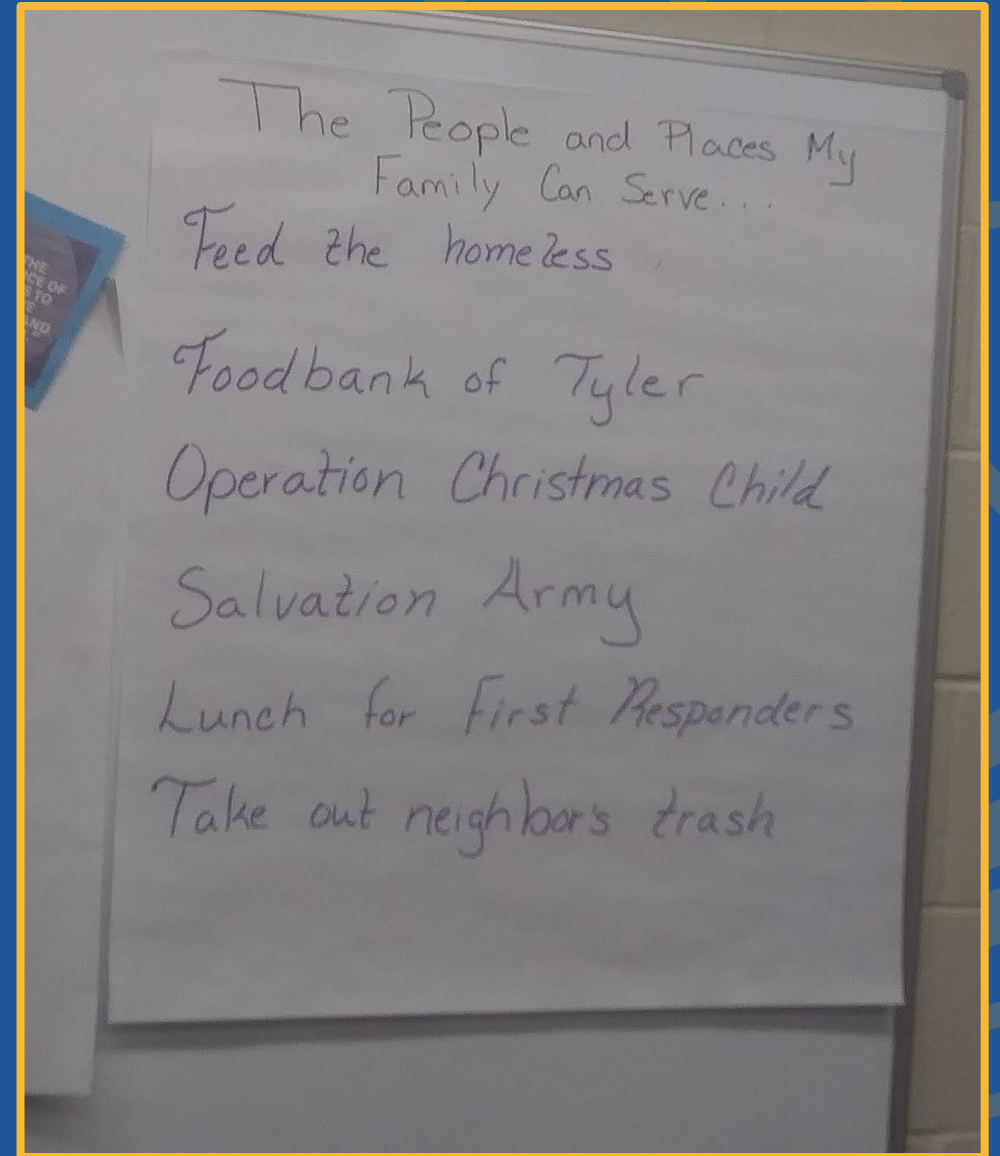




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EMPOWER

- Parents were taught the 6 endowments of a thriving city and will engaged in a discussion about whether or not Tyler is a thriving city.
- They created posters discussing places and people they could serve as a family this summer.
- The list will be consolidated and sent to parents to give them a database of choices.





EMPOWER, cont.

- Parents decided to do a Christmas Jar as a community. They collected change and small bills to put in a jar. They were then going to decide who to gift the jar to.
- As the year went on, a school family was deported and needed funds to come back. The Christmas Jar was given to them to help with these expenses. This family had been contributing to the jar and was surprised to be the receivers of it. It was a blessing in their lives!



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Student Reflections:

Parents were invited to participate in a brief survey reflecting on their family's experience upon completion of their service project.

- Family Preflexion
- Family Survey



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Teacher Reflections:

How was the deep hope and essential learning targets realized?

Parents learned the heart of Teaching for Transformation during our time together. They had a better understanding for the teaching protocols we are using. They also were able to experience the joy of doing Real Work for a Real Need together.



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