Christmas lights make things bright, but there’s more than one way to shine at Christmas. Discuss how your family can give the love God gave to you:

1. In the movie, Christina sells homemade cards to help her neighbor. Do you know someone with a need? What can you do to help meet that need? List your ideas:

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2. When Lawrence the Elf hears how Christina wants to help her neighbor, he wants to help, too. Getting others to pitch in makes Christmas shine even brighter! How can you get friends or family to help with your ideas from Question 1?

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3. Larry’s Silly Song says, “Wrap Yourself Up for Christmas.” Think of ways to give yourself—your time, your care, your talents—to others. As Acts 20:35 says,

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4. Guess what else you can wrap up for Christmas? An Operation Christmas Child shoebox! By packing an empty shoebox with simple items like toys, school supplies, and hygiene items, you will bless a child who may have never had the joy of receiving a gift. For more information on how to pack a shoebox gift and where to drop it off during National Collection Week, visit samaritanspurse.org/occ

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5. Christmas is a good time to be kind, and not just to people who are kind to you. “Love one another, just as I have loved you,” Jesus said in John 13:34. Do you know someone who seems sad or lonely, and might need an extra bit of kindness? Bake cookies for them or make a homemade card to brighten their day!

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6. Christmas is not the only time to give the love God gave to you. Like Lawrence and Phillip, can you find ways to help the community all year long?

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Every month Focus on the Family Clubhouse Jr. magazine provides children with great ideas of how to serve others, along with fun activities, educational puzzles and creatively told Bible stories. Friends of VeggieTales can subscribe to Focus on the Family Clubhouse Jr. for half off the newsstand price. That’s just $14.99 per year! Go to focusonthefamily.com/merrylarry to subscribe to this award-winning magazine for 3 to 7-year-olds.

Get more fun ideas on how your family can serve children around the world! Focus on the Family and Operation Christmas Child teamed up to provide this free pdf kit for you: “Guide for Serving Others as a Family.” Visit samaritanspurse.org today and click on the Resources section of the Operation Christmas Child page.

*Newsstand price per issue is $2.50