

Use “The Scene” to introduce “Become a Servant” the Young Teen Sunday school lesson for February 28, 2016. The lesson is found on page 81 of *Young Teen Teacher* by Standard Publishing.

# the SCENE

Viewing the latest news through the lens of Scripture

As the U.S. presidential race heats up, we are reminded by the media that the president is a “servant of the people.” So what does it take to serve the people of the United States of America? Well, endurance, for one. Just reading the president’s daily schedule is exhausting (you can find it on the White House’s own website at <https://www.whitehouse.gov>).

The president’s day normally starts with the President’s Daily Brief—a highly classified report on matters of international intelligence and events. Then the meetings begin. For example, a recent day in the life of POTUS started with a meeting with the king of Jordan, in which the president would discuss working against ISIL (the Islamic terrorist group), helping refugees, peace in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and resolving the war in Syria.

And that’s all before lunch.

Later in the day, President Obama would meet with leaders of organizations, sign legislation, and talk to the press—several times. Then in the evening he and the First Lady would host various performers in a tribute to Ray Charles—an event to be streamed live on the White House website.

This so-called typical day is long by anyone’s standards. No wonder the president’s health is also taken into careful consideration. Running a marathon every day—especially one where people’s lives are in the balance—is not for the fainthearted.

*As students arrive, give each of them a copy of the above news story to read. After all teens have had the opportunity to read the article, discuss it in this way:*

**If you have time, look up the daily schedule of the president. Discuss the typical kinds of things the president has to do in a day. Which activities would you enjoy doing? Which would you hate?**

**What do you think it means to be a “servant of the people”? In your opinion, does the president behave like a servant or like a ruler?**

**The job of the president requires a lot of sacrifices. Discuss what some of those would be. What kinds of sacrifices would you be willing to make for a job? How would you make decisions about what kind of job is worth making important sacrifices?**

**There are some jobs out there we would be very reluctant to perform, even though they provide vital services to others. One of the things we must consider before taking any job is whether or not we are willing to do what the job requires. In our Bible study today, we’re going to see how Jesus demonstrated humble, servant leadership.**