



## Children's Sermon for Sept 12 (based on Mark 8:27-38)

**Items needed:** toy octopus or picture of octopus

Show the octopus and ask what it is. The octopus has eight tentacles which are like eight arms. These eight "arm-like" tentacles are good for grabbing on to all kinds of things. Imagine if you had eight arms--how many things you would be able to hold on to all at once! Imagine, you could hug four people at one time! The octopus lives in the ocean, so how do you think the octopus gets around? Swimming! But, to swim, the octopus can't hold on to anything. She or he must let go of everything to be able to swim. In today's Bible reading, Jesus says you must "deny yourself" to follow Him. Jesus is saying that we are like an octopus---we need to let go of things to be able to move towards Jesus. Letting go can be hard, just like it's hard for an octopus, but we need to let go to follow Jesus.

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