

Family Time 7: The Good Samaritan

The Parable of the Good Samaritan was the focus of today's session. In this story, Jesus teaches us that love for God and love for neighbor are inseparable. He tells us that we are to treat everyone as our neighbor. This means that we are called to love and respect others because we all belong to the family of God.

Talk with your child about the ways in which your members of your family show love and care for one another. Together, recall occasions when you have reached out as a family to help others, perhaps through a service opportunity at your parish or school. Also talk about the many simple ways each of us is a "good Samaritan" to friends and others in the community. Affirming your child's actions will encourage him or her to look for more opportunities to serve others.

Help your child to understand that disciples of Jesus pray for people in need. Make a list of people who need our love and care in today's world. Include their names below as you and your family pray this prayer of petitions.

A Prayer of Petitions

Leader: Loving Father, help us to show our love for others.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: For all those who feel abandoned, especially for ____.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: For all those who are sick, hospitalized, or terminally ill, especially for ____.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Lord of Life, we trust in your loving care. May your Spirit comfort all those in need with your healing grace. In Jesus' name we pray.

All: Amen.