

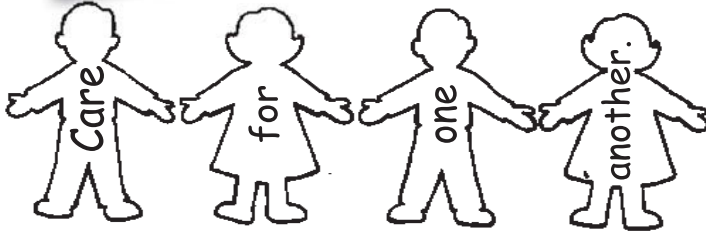
## Compassion=Love in Action

Provide paper and crayons. Ask children to draw a picture of someone who loves them. Let them share their pictures and then talk about Jesus' love for them and what it means to share that love with others.

Care for one another.  
—1 Corinthians 12:25

### Scripture Discovery

Print the scripture words on a string of paper dolls connected at the hands. Place in 1 Corinthians for the children to discover.



### Scripture Story

The scripture stories in the Gospels contain many examples of healing. One of the common denominators in all the experiences seems to be the response of Jesus to a request for help. Words that describe his compassion are used to tell about what happened. Today's story (*page 23*) comes from Mark 1:40–45. Invite actors to portray the story or let the children act out the parts as you tell the story.

### Prayer for Action

Dear Jesus, thank you for loving me. Help me to take that love and share it with others. Amen.

### Community Action

Jesus did whatever he could to help people. We can do the same. Check to see what projects the congregation supports to help the community. Children may be able to fix a food basket, gather paper products, or assemble first-aid kits for families that could use some support. Ask family members to bring supplies. This might be a good activity to use across the generations for today.

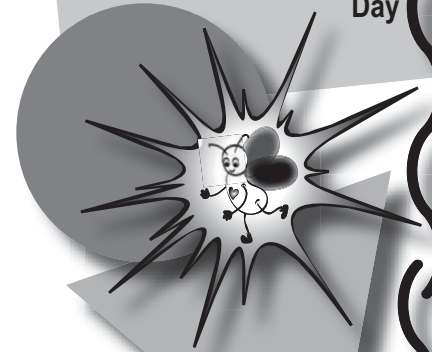
### Laying on of Hands for Sick

Explain to the children that in the Community of Christ elders are sometimes called upon to pray a special prayer for the sick. This is one of our church sacraments. One of the elders will place a tiny dot of consecrated olive oil on the sick person's head, then the elders will say a prayer asking God to be with the person who is sick.

Ask the children if any of them have ever had the elders come and pray for them. Let them share their experiences. Give everyone a chance to touch a dot of olive oil and to experience what it feels like to have someone place their hands upon your head for the special prayer.

## Compassion in Action

Youth Ministries Day



### MATERIALS

- COMPASSION=LOVE IN ACTION**  
paper  
crayons
- SCRIPTURE DISCOVERY**  
Bible  
scripture cards
- SCRIPTURE STORY**
- BAPTISM OF THE SPIRIT**  
olive oil
- SHARE A SMILE**  
construction paper  
glue sticks  
variety of shapes/colors  
markers or crayons
- DISCIPLES' GENEROUS RESPONSE**  
offering basket
- FAMILY CONNECTIONS**  
take-home pages

## HELPERS FOR JESUS

Words by Marge Nelson and Lynda Roberson  
Tune: "I've Got the Joy, Joy, Joy"

I've got two arms that give big hugs for Jesus  
Ready to share,  
Ready to share,  
Ready to share.  
I've got two arms that give big hugs for Jesus  
Ready to share,  
Ready to share today.

I've got two eyes that find the good in others  
Ready to see,  
Ready to see,  
Ready to see.  
I've got two eyes that find the good in others  
Ready to see,  
Ready to see today.

I've got two ears that hear someone in trouble  
Ready to help,  
Ready to help,  
Ready to help.  
I've got two ears that hear someone in trouble  
Ready to help,  
Ready to help today.

I've got two hands that reach to feed the hungry  
Ready to serve,  
Ready to serve,  
Ready to serve.  
I've got two hands that reach to feed the hungry  
Ready to serve,  
Ready to serve today.

I've got two feet that run to tell of Jesus  
Ready to go,  
Ready to go,  
Ready to go.  
I've got two feet that run to tell of Jesus  
Ready to go,  
Ready to go today.

## LOVING KINDNESS

Invite the children to share an act of loving kindness by greeting people who enter the sanctuary for worship. Let children share hugs and smiles, along with heart or happy-face stickers. Children will be at different comfort levels with this activity and should not be forced to participate.

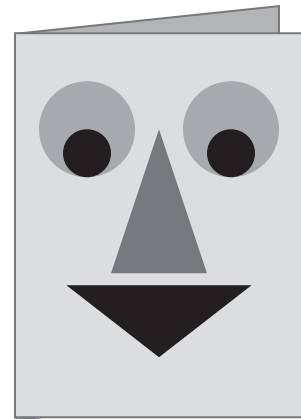
## COMPASSION IN ACTION

Ask the children to respond to the following statements with the action described. Add more actions that you know directly apply to the children. Talk about what it means to share Jesus' love through the things we do.

- If you can give someone a hug, stand and hug a friend.
- If you can share your toys, turn around two times.
- If you can say I love you, jump up and down three times.
- If you can help a sick person feel better, smile really big.
- If you can pick up your toys, walk around the table.
- If you can help clean your house, pretend to sweep the floor.
- If you can feed a pet, pretend to pet a dog.
- If you can make new friends, shake a hand with a neighbor.
- If you can tell a friend about Jesus, shout "Jesus loves you!"

## SHARE A SMILE

Help the children make "happy cards" to share with people in the congregation. To make cards, use construction paper cut into a variety of shapes and colors and glue onto paper folded in half. Give to someone who is not feeling well or who didn't get to come to church today.



## "Sharing Generously"

Tune: "Old MacDonald Had a Farm"

God needs me a disciple to be,  
Sharing generously.  
In faith we give because we care,  
Sharing generously.  
With a nickle here, and a quarter there,  
See our money helping others,  
bringing love to one another.  
God needs me a disciple to be,  
Sharing generously.



## Disciples' Generous Response

Let children place their money in the offering basket as they sing, clap, and dance to the music of the song "Sharing Generously."

## FAMILY CONNECTIONS

Make copies of the Family Connections (page 23) to send home with each child. Mail a copy to children who missed today's class.

# FAMILY CONNECTIONS



- Let's sing "The Church Is the Body of Jesus."

Jesus touched the man and he was healed.  
—Mark 1:41-42

- Let's read today's story together.

- Let's share love for one another.

- give a hug
- share toys
- say, "I love you."
- smile
- tell a friend,
- "Jesus loves you!"**

## The Church Is the Body of Jesus

The church is the bo - dy of Je - sus, His ears, eyes, voice, fin - gers, and  
toes. If we do our part with love in our heart, The  
bod-y will speak, sing, and serve the Lord. Go forth in the world as he goes.

## Answering a Cry for Help

by Marge Nelson

"There's a place to rest," said Andrew, pointing to the shade of a tree a little ways off the road.

"I could use a rest," said Jesus. "We have been walking a long time today."

"If we could only have a little peace and quiet," said James, taking off his sandals. "Everywhere we go people rush to you for help."

"I know," agreed Jesus. "But there are so many who are hurting. I wish I could help them all."

"Jesus!" called a man from the road. "Jesus, will you help me?" The man ran toward the disciples. He came as close as he dared, being a leper, and knelt down in front of Jesus.

"I am unclean," he cried. "I am banished from my friends and family. No one wants to be near me for fear of catching what I have. But Jesus, If you choose, you can make me clean."

Jesus smiled at the man, then reached out and touched him. "I do choose. Be made clean!"

"Look!" the man shouted. "My skin! The leprosy is gone! You did it, Jesus! You made me well! I knew you could do it."

"Your faith is strong," Jesus told him. "Now do what the law requires. Go to the priest and show him you are well. But keep this good news to yourself. Don't tell everyone you meet what happened."

"I won't! I mean I will," stammered the man. "I'm just so happy." And he ran toward the village.

"Will he keep it to himself?" asked Simon.

"Probably not," said Jesus. "I'm glad he is happy and well, but when people hear about the miracles, they rush to find me."

"You want people to come, don't you?" asked John.

"Yes," said Jesus, "but for the right reasons. To hear what God wants them to do is the important part."

"Maybe he'll do what you asked," said James.

"If he doesn't, we will no longer be able to go into the towns. We will have to stay out here in the country where there is more room for the crowds of people."