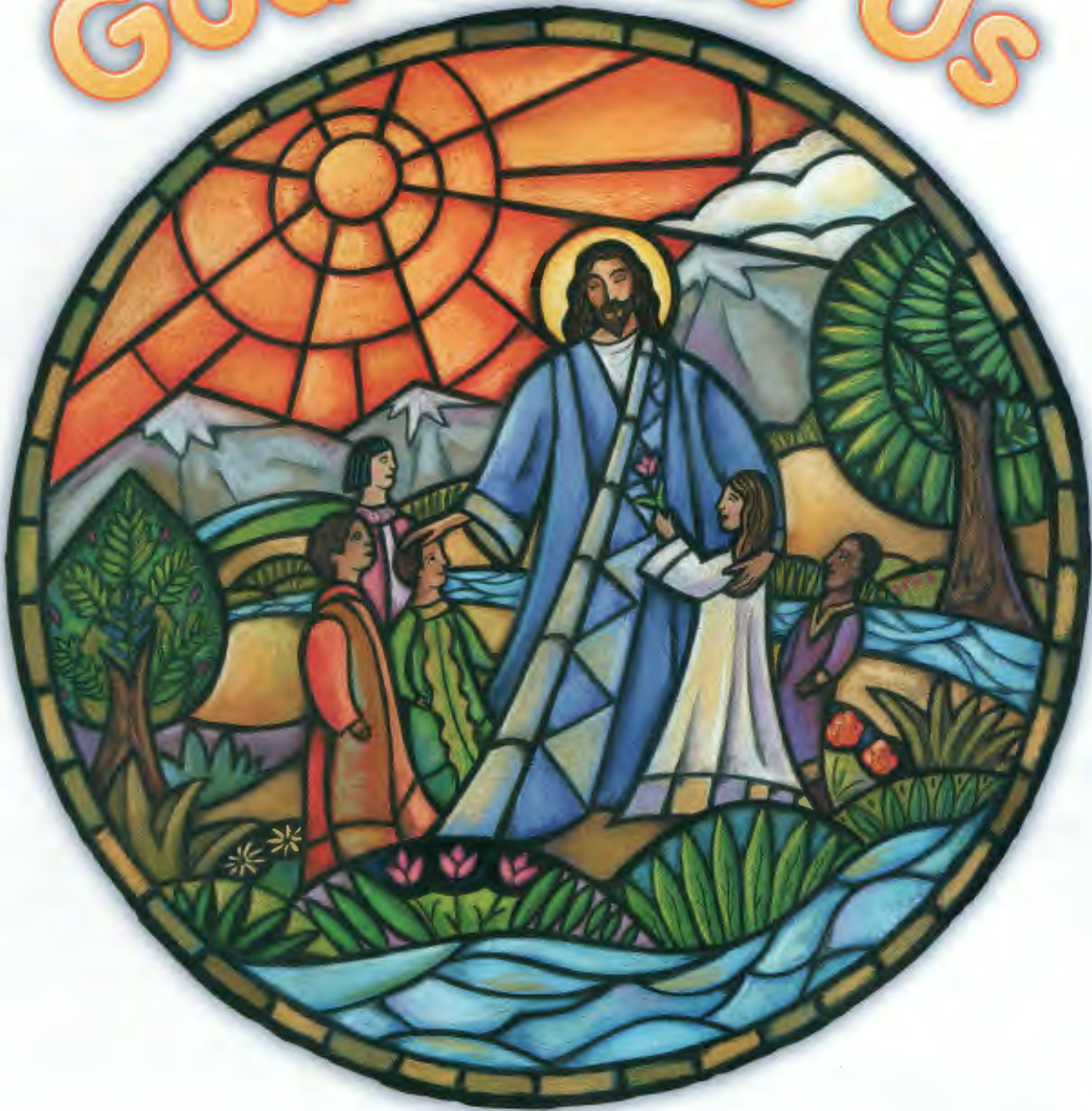


KINDERGARTEN

# God Loves Us



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# Hands Are Good

Our helping hands are gifts of love. With them, we give to others.

We show the love that's in our hearts for our sisters and brothers.

Our hands can bring us blessings too, for they help us share our love.

Our loving deeds bring happiness and special joys from God above.



## Scripture

Two men who were blind heard that Jesus was passing by.

They shouted, "Lord, have mercy on us!"

Jesus stopped and asked, "What do you want me to do for you?"

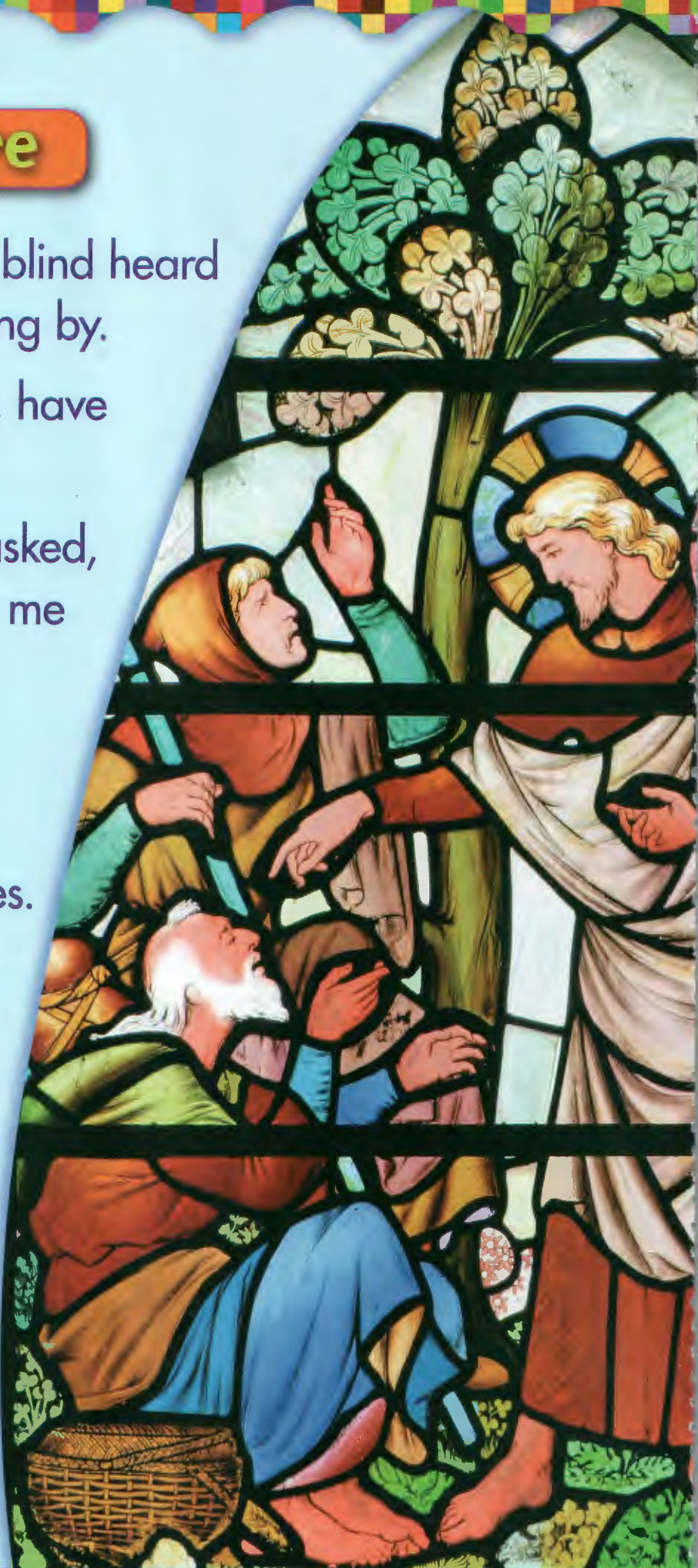
They said, "Lord, let us see."

He touched their eyes.

They could see.

The two men followed Jesus, praising God.

Based on  
Matthew 20:30–34



Jesus helped people.  
We will help people too.  
I can use my hands to help others.



## Try This

Circle the pictures that show how you can help.  
How do you feel when you have helped others?  
Thank God for the gift of your helping hands.



# Service in Families

## The Lesson Your Child Learned \_\_\_\_\_

Jesus made it known through his words and actions that he came not to be served, but to serve. He taught self-giving as the way to human fulfillment. Children will find meaning in life through love of God and others if they live in families in which they witness generous self-giving service. In this chapter the children heard the story of Jesus helping two blind men by his healing touch. They learn that Jesus calls them to be helpers too.

## Living the Lesson \_\_\_\_\_

My mother turned 80 recently, and it was time for a lot of reminiscing. One thing that all our memories shared in common is that in every story Mom was usually busy doing some kind of service for others. And upon further reflection, no matter how serious the cause, Mom and her friends always made sure they had fun. Even now, her calendar is peppered with volunteering at a hospital thrift store, leading religious education sessions with special-needs children, and just about any other need that surfaces at her local parish.

Now I see this same pattern woven into the lives of her children and grandchildren. Children learn a lot by osmosis, that is, by absorbing what's present in their environment. As parents it's easy to get caught up doing for our children. And that is necessary and good. But we also owe them the example of doing for others in a spirit of joyful generosity. Their little eyes are watching.

—Tom McGrath, author of *Raising Faith-Filled Kids* (Loyola Press)



## Bringing the Lesson Home \_\_\_\_\_

- Read with your child the pages from this chapter that were sent home.
- Encourage your child to help others and acknowledge his or her contributions. Be specific.
- Let your child see your willingness to help those both inside and outside your family circle. Encourage your child to make such contributions as well.
- Adopt an elderly person in your neighborhood. Have your child make a card or gift for the person and/or visit him or her regularly.
- Find ways for your child to participate in daily household tasks.

