

## Loving Others—Loving Yourself

1 Kings 14, 15

So much evil in the world is done because people love themselves more than they love others. The Lord does not tell us that we should not love ourselves, but that we should love others as much or more than we love ourselves. It is often hard to choose another person's happiness over our own, and sometimes it is not easy to recognize the difference between loving others and loving yourself.

- Look at the words below. Circle words about loving others and cross out words having to do with loving yourself more than others. Look up words you do not know.

Charitable	Spiteful	Compassionate	Unkind	Annoying
Ruthless	Selfish	Cruel	Merciful	Cooperative
Helpful	Sympathetic	Generous	Obliging	Considerate
Respectful	Egotistical	Merciless	Harsh	Courteous
Supportive	Polite	Benevolent	Malicious	Kind

- Read the scenarios below and describe how you might put someone else's needs or wishes before your own. There are some obvious answers, but you might come up with more creative ways to make others happy.
1. One of your classmates loves soccer, but is not very good at it so he/she is often left out of the pick-up games. You enjoy soccer and want a good game. This classmate asks you if he/she can play. What do you do?
  2. Your sister is in a play and wants you to attend. You would rather see your friends. What do you do?
  3. Your eccentric aunt is in town and wants to take you out to dinner. You would rather not be seen with her because she can be embarrassing. What do you do?
  4. Your parents won't let you do something you want to do. They have given you reasons for their decision, but you don't like the reasons and are angry. What do you do?