

BEING ALERTED BY THE LORD

“When people who are perceptive have feelings of compassion, they know that they are being alerted by the Lord to offer help.”

(Arcana Coelestia 6737)

How are we inspired to do kind things for family, friends, and neighbors? All good loves come from the Lord, so we know that He is the source of our inspiration. However, the Lord cherishes our freedom, and we are generally unaware of His influence on our lives. Nevertheless, we have this beautiful teaching about the Lord alerting us to help others.

For Reflection

- Some people experience a strong feeling that they should call a friend or family member, and then learn that this person needs support.
- Are you aware of times when the Lord may have been alerting you to help someone?

For Family Discussion

- The Lord alerting people to offer help to others is another illustration of how He helps others through us if we are open to His leading.
- Share stories about times when this has happened to you or to someone you know. Or look for examples in fiction, film, and other sources.

Journal Suggestion

- Write about a time when it seemed that the Lord was alerting you to help someone.

Following the Lord's Leading

- Is it possible that the Lord has tried to alert you to help someone, but you didn't hear Him or recognize this inspiration as coming from the Lord?
- Is it possible that a compassionate person might feel compelled to help other people to the detriment of himself or his family?
- How can people maintain a balance among the various uses in life, making sure that uses in one area don't damage their usefulness in the workplace, in family life, *etc.*?