Learn by Doing

Choice A Helping Handprint

The parable of the sheep and the goats gives us six examples of ways we can help the Lord by helping our fellow human beings. While young children likely cannot do these activities literally, they can learn the core message—that the Lord wants us to be loving and helpful to our neighbors.

1. Hand out *Offer Your Neighbors a Helping Hand* (p. 2) to the children and read the title to them. Encourage them to talk about what the pictures show.
2. You can help the Lord by helping other people, too. When you are kind to your friends, or share with your brothers and sisters, or help your mother or father, you are helping the Lord as well!
3. Color the pictures using pencils or crayons.
4. Now show that you want to offer your hand to help by making a handprint under the pictures. Help each child place their hand, palm down, in the paint tray. Then make a hand print under the pictures as shown below.
5. Leave the pictures to dry. Use a hairdryer to speed up drying if needed.
6. The children might wish to give the pictures as gifts to their parents to show that they want to be helpful.



Materials Needed

copy of *Offer Your Neighbors a Helping Hand,* p. 2 for each child, water-based paint, paint trays (plates or Styrofoam trays), wipes or wet paper towels for cleanup, crayons or markers
optional: newspaper to cover table, shirts to protect clothing, hairdryer to speed drying

Prepare in Advance

Pour a thin layer of paint into one or more paint trays.
Optional: cover table with newspaper.

Teaching Hint

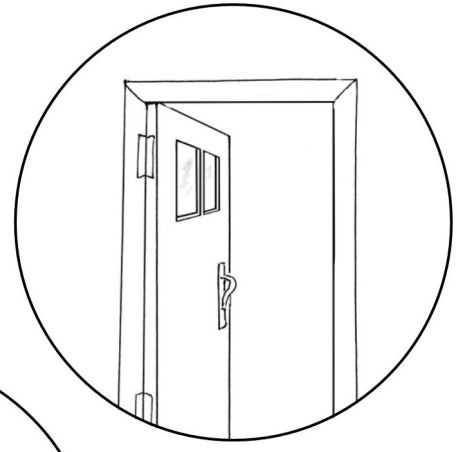
Having an older helper to give one-on-one help for children to make hand prints and clean their hands will make this project go more smoothly.

New Church Concept Charity

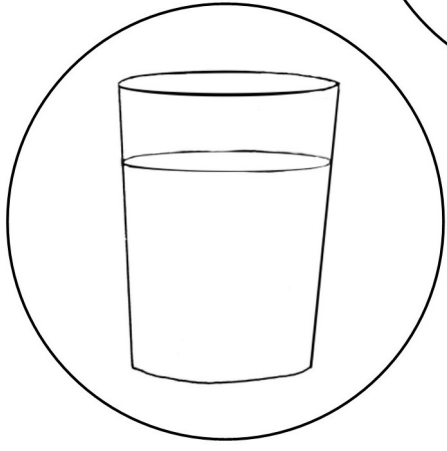
Anyone who has charity toward the neighbor is moved by an affection for goodness and truth because they come from the Lord, and such a one turns away from evil and falsity because these come from himself. When he does this, humility is present in him.
Arcana Coelestia 4956

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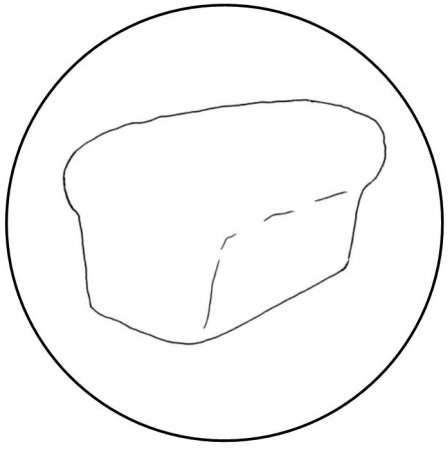
Offer Your Neighbors a Helping Hand













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