



Lesson 3

How can I help?

TOGETHER

Songs: CH4 When I needed a neighbour; JP 95 If you see someone lying in the road; JP 348 God loves you

Materials: Plastic syringe (the kind used to give small children measured doses of medicine), a plastic medicine spoon, a picture of Sarah McRae, a picture of Salmon Raj, a "How can we help?" worksheet for each child.

Encourage children to tell the group about times they have been in hospital or needed medical treatment?

What happens if a child falls and breaks a bone? Who helps you to get better?

Explain the role of a physiotherapist.

Show a picture of Sarah McRae.

This is Sarah McRae. She was a member of QII and now she is a physiotherapist still living in Edinburgh.

Show the syringe.

Who likes getting an injection? Many of you will have had injections when you were small, not because you were ill but to stop you becoming ill. Show the spoon. Babies in this country get a spoonful of medicine to stop them from getting a dreadful disease called polio. This disease used to paralyse children and sometimes they died of the illness but thanks to a small drop of medicine polio is a thing of the past in this country.

This is Salmon Raj. He lives in Tuni in India.

Show the picture.

This is his story.

When Salmon Raj was six months old he fell from his cot onto the mud floor. "My parents didn't find any defect or injury, but when I was growing my backbone became deformed and my leg problems began," he says. Salmon Raj had contracted polio, and his physical deterioration continued. Soon he could not stand and had to move around on all fours. "I thought it would get worse and worse, that I would never walk again at all. I thought I would have to stay in my bed."

His father, a bicycle rickshaw driver with four other children, could not afford medical treatment. So he brought Salmon Raj to the Light of Love Home. In 2005, SLA arranged for Salmon Raj to have

SCOTTISH LOVE IN ACTION ☆ CARING FOR CHILDREN IN INDIA

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corrective surgery in Mumbai. Sarah volunteered to use her skills as a physiotherapist and travelled to Tuni where she worked with him and made great progress strengthening his legs.

Less than six months after his operation Salmon Raj was walking with crutches and his mobility improved so much that he was able to attend the local college. "After the operation I wanted to run and dance. I said to Gillie when she left that next time she saw me I would dance with her." Salmon Raj's determination and bravery are an inspiration to everyone at SLA.

Tell the children they can find Salmon Raj's story and picture in SLA's web site.

BIBLE STUDY in groups

Tell the story of the talents. Matthew 25 v 14-28

Jesus told this story:

A rich man was about to go abroad. He called his servants and asked them to look after his property while he was away. To one he gave £5, to another he gave £2 and to the third he gave £1 and then he went abroad.

The first servant did some business with his money and doubled it. The second did the same. The third man went off and buried his master's money in a hole in the ground.

The rich man was abroad for a long time. When he returned he called for his servants to settle the account.

The first servant came and handed over £10. "Look sire, You gave me £5 and I have turned it into £10."

"Fine!" said his master, "You are a good servant. You have proved yourself with a small sum of money. I'll put you in charge of something much more important."

The second servant came to him.

"Sir," he said, "You gave me £2 and I have made it into £4."

Fine!" said his master, "You are a good servant. You have proved yourself with a small sum of money. I'll put you in charge of something much more important."

The third servant came along.

"Sir," he said, "I know the kind of man you are. You are a hard man. I was afraid. I buried the £1 in the ground. I did not want it stolen. Here's your money back."

"You're a bad and lazy servant," said his master, " You should ,at least have put my money in the bank so I would get some interest on it when I got back. Take the money from him and throw him into prison.

Discuss with the children why the master was angry with the third servant. This is a hard parable for adults to understand so keep the discussion simple. We all have talents and God expects us to use them well.

Sarah was able to use her talents as a physiotherapist to help Salmon Raj.

ACTIVITY

Give each child a copy of the talents worksheet. Discuss what they want to be when they grow up. Let each one draw their chosen occupation. Don't comment negatively on their choices. It is likely that many of the boys will want to be footballers at this stage.

In the group brainstorm ideas as to how each occupation has a talent that can be used to help others. *Teachers have gone to Tuni to help develop their education programme. Doctors and nurses have helped villagers in the area. Last year the Scottish Chamber Orchestra was in India and some of the musicians took time out to go to the school to play for the young people. All over Britain churches and other groups have worked to raise money to pay for hospital expenses and for the day to day running costs of the school/home. Athletic people have run marathons to raise funds and some less athletic have dressed up in costumes to run in sponsored events. The possibilities for helping are endless. We all have a talent that can be put to use to help others..*

PRAYER

Thank God for all the people who have given their talents to help others. Pray that as the children grow they will recognise that they have a talent and use it for good.

Hand out notices with SLA's web address for children who have web access to take home.

www.sla-india.org

How Can I Help?

When I grow up I want to be a

.....

I could help others by: