



## Lesson 4

## Something Jesus Said

### TOGETHER

**Songs:** CH4 692 Jesus puts this song into our hearts; CH4 351 Jesus' hands were kind hands; JP 47 For I'm building a people of power

**Materials:** 3 large sheets of paper, preferably pinned to the wall at child height in different parts of the room, 3 different coloured marker pens, pictures of Dalit villages, picture of Premdas, worksheet with Premdas' story for each child, bibles

Divide your group into three teams with a note taker/recorder and a different coloured marker pen for each. Have ready 3 large sheets of paper (flip chart paper or pieces of wallpaper) with Houses/Homes at the top of sheet 1, Family Life on sheet 2, Healthy Living on sheet 3  
Sit each group beside a sheet. Tell them that you are going to give them 4 minutes to come up with as many ideas to do with their title as possible.

E.g. Houses/homes - strong roofs, bricks

Family Life - mothers, birthdays

Healthy Living -food, hospitals

Only the recorder can write on the paper but everyone else has to give ideas. Spelling is not important. Say, "Start!" After 4 minutes say, "Stop!" No writing is allowed after you say stop. Direct each group to move to a different sheet, taking their coloured marker with them. Tell them to read what is already on the paper in front of them and to try to add to it with new ideas to fit the title. This time they have 3 minutes.

Say, " Start!" Then "Stop!"

Move each group to their last sheet. This time they have 2 minutes to add their ideas.

Bring everyone together and look at the number of things that we think are necessary for our lives.

Show the children pictures of Dalit villages. Ask the children to compare what they can see with the lists they made.

*Lack of clean water can lead to disease. Houses made of mud with banana leaves for roofs can be damaged by frequent cyclones. Droughts can cause the crops to fail and families to have no income to buy food. Adults sometimes have to move away in search of work leaving their families unprotected. Even basic healthcare is too expensive.*

Show a picture of Premdas.

*Dr. Premdas is a Dalit and a Christian. He worked for a local relief agency. Here is his story. Give each child a copy of Premdas' story. Ask an adult in your group to read it aloud.*

*"I went to a village to distribute relief aid to the survivors of a major fire. After a day's work in 110 degree heat I sat parched with thirst in the shade of a tree near a house. I asked the lady of the house to give me a glass of water. She straightaway asked: "What is your caste?" When I replied, "I am a Dalit" she refused to give me water.*

*"Two villagers approached. They were Dalits, naked but for loin cloths and near starved. They told me how they had surrendered their children to upper caste landlords as bonded labourers; how their women were exploited and abused: how Dalits were barred from the public well and the temple.*

*"The next week I resigned my job. I moved to Tuni where, together with my fellow Dalits and Dalit Christians, I established NASA."*

*Through his organisation **Nazareth Association for Social Awareness (NASA)** Dr Premdash is able to bring practical help to desperate villagers. He first set up the Light of Love home and school that SLA now supports.*

### **BIBLE STUDY** In groups

Matthew 25 v34 -41

What did Jesus mean when he talked about, "Helping the least of my brothers"?

What does it mean to be a follower of Jesus?

How is Dr. Premdas following Jesus?

How can we help? Encourage the children to share ideas and note them down on their sheets.

### **TOGETHER AGAIN**

Share some of the ideas. Remind the children that SLA concentrates on helping the children.

### **SONG**

When I needed a neighbour?

### **PRAYER**

Thank God for all the people in the world who dedicate their lives to helping others. Thank God for all the good things in our lives. Pray for those who are in need, who are ill, who are unhappy. Ask God for help in discovering new ways in which we can help.

# How can we help?

## *Dr Premdas' Story*

*"I went to a village to distribute relief aid to the survivors of a major fire. After a day's work in 110 degree heat I sat parched with thirst in the shade of a tree near a house. I asked the lady of the house to give me a glass of water. She straightaway asked: "What is your caste?" When I replied, "I am a Dalit" she refused to give me water.*

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Matthew 25 v 34-41

We can help by

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You can find out more at [www.sla-india.org](http://www.sla-india.org)