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A Sign of Royalty

Key References: Luke 6:27-36; *Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing,* chap. 3, pp. 73-75; *The Bible Story* (1994), vol. 8, pp. 62-65; Our Beliefs, nos. 14, 17, 22















power**text**

"But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked" (Luke 6:35).

power**point**

As sons and daughters of God, we can choose to love everyone.

Sabbath

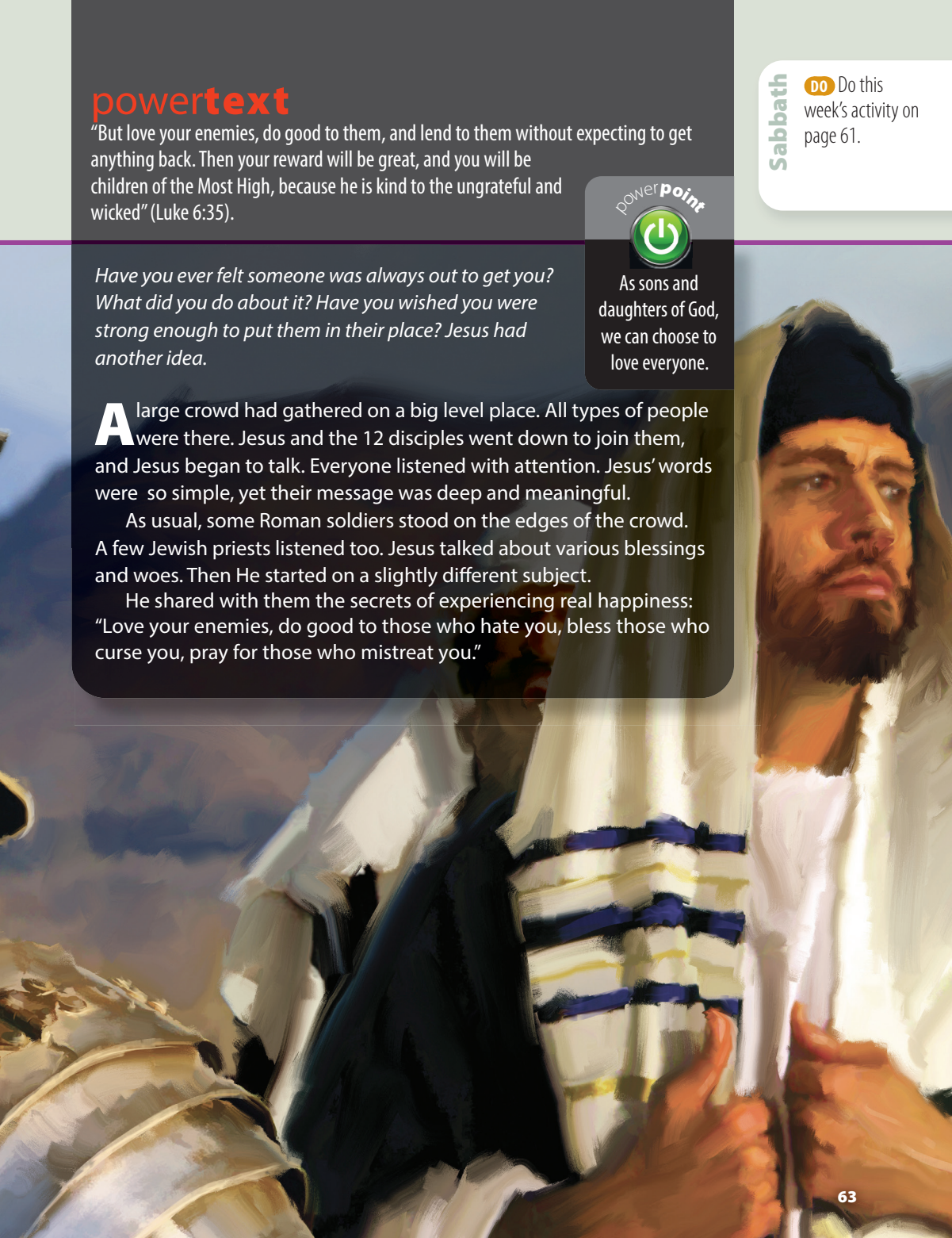
DO Do this week's activity on page 61.

Have you ever felt someone was always out to get you? What did you do about it? Have you wished you were strong enough to put them in their place? Jesus had another idea.

A large crowd had gathered on a big level place. All types of people were there. Jesus and the 12 disciples went down to join them, and Jesus began to talk. Everyone listened with attention. Jesus' words were so simple, yet their message was deep and meaningful.

As usual, some Roman soldiers stood on the edges of the crowd. A few Jewish priests listened too. Jesus talked about various blessings and woes. Then He started on a slightly different subject.

He shared with them the secrets of experiencing real happiness: "Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you."



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Sunday

READ Read Colossians 3:10-15 and this week's story, "A Sign of Royalty."

LEARN Write your power text, Luke 6:35, in bold letters and place it where you can begin to learn it.

PRAY Ask God to impress you how much He loves you, no matter what you may have done to hurt Him.

Monday

READ Read Luke 6:27-31.

THINK Think of something new and different you can do for someone in your family.

DO Do something helpful without being asked. Do a little more than normally expected.

PRAY Ask God to give you the ability to do something positive for someone with whom you don't get along.

Tuesday

READ Read Luke 6:32-36.

DO Do something good for someone who doesn't like you very much. Try to do it without their knowing.

PRAY Ask God to help you do good when no one notices.

"If someone slaps you on one cheek, turn to them the other also. If someone takes your coat, do not withhold your shirt from them."

"Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back."

"Do to others as you would have them do to you. If you love those who



love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them."

"And if you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do that. And if you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, expecting to be repaid in full."

"But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked.

"Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful" (Luke 6:27-36).

Jesus paused to watch the reactions on the upturned faces around Him. He could see a few evil grins, many on Roman faces. He could see some scowls, many on priests' faces. He saw mixed expressions from the multitude. There was stirring. Some people were gathering their families and belongings and leaving. It wasn't even lunchtime. Those leaving early were careful not to go anywhere near the Roman soldiers. Those leaving early never heard the rest of Jesus' sermon. What He was asking of them was just



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Wednesday

READ Read Matthew 5:43-48.

WRITE In your Bible study journal, write a letter to God about what you learned from this lesson and these verses in particular.

PRAY Read the letter out loud to Him.

Thursday

READ Read Romans 12:14-21.

DISCUSS Talk with an adult about what it means to "heap burning coals" on someone's head, as it states in verse 20.

PRAY Ask God to show you a specific way that you can overcome evil with good today and tomorrow.

Friday

READ Read 1 John 4:17-21.

THINK Is what God is asking difficult? How can we love our enemies?

CREATE Draw or create a representation of the verse "We love because he first loved us." Remember that accepting His love "turns on" our ability to love others.

SHARE Share your thoughts or creation with your family at worship this evening.

PRAY Together with your family, thank God for loving you and for enabling you to love.

too much. They didn't want to hear any more.

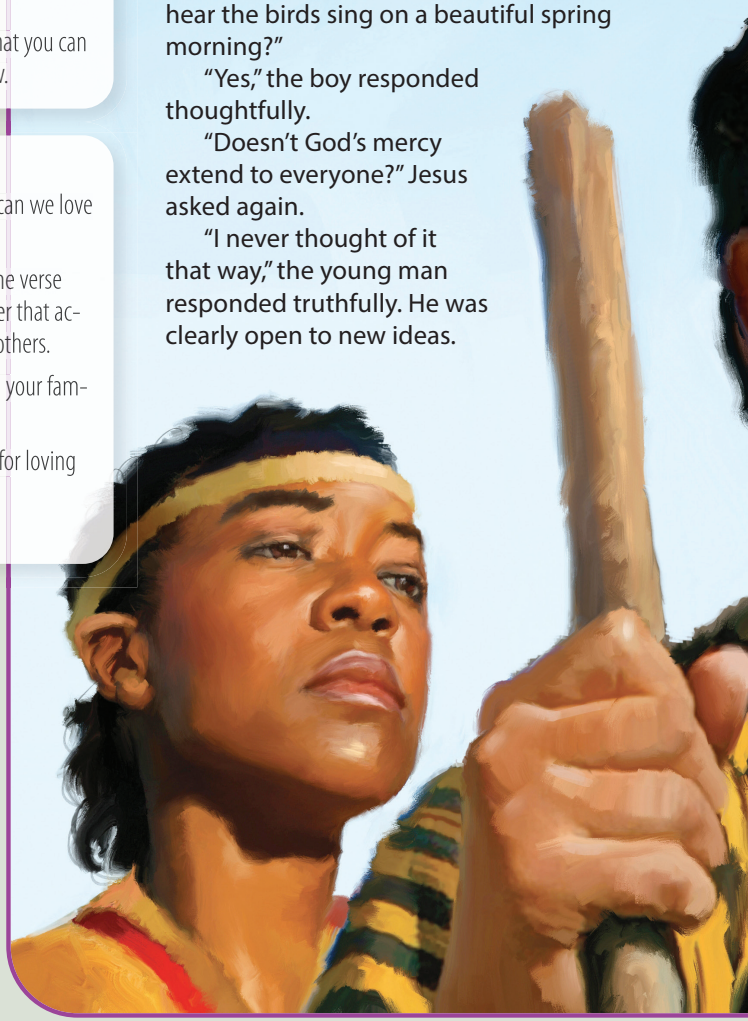
Toward evening, as most of the crowd was departing, one young man stayed seated near Jesus. "Master," he asked after a few moments of silence, "doesn't God give His blessings to those who obey Him? Why should we do good things to our enemies?"

Jesus smiled at him. "Doesn't God send the sun and the rain on the obedient and the disobedient? Can't they all hear the birds sing on a beautiful spring morning?"

"Yes," the boy responded thoughtfully.

"Doesn't God's mercy extend to everyone?" Jesus asked again.

"I never thought of it that way," the young man responded truthfully. He was clearly open to new ideas.



"Serving God," Jesus explained, "means being willing to be to others the way God is to us. Loving our enemies means we will always act in other people's best interest even if they are determined to hurt us. We will pray for them. We will think of real ways of helping them. We will grant them the same rights and respect as we would like for ourselves."

"I don't know if I could do that," the young man looked wistfully into the Master's face.

"And that is exactly the point," Jesus smiled, knowing that once again a young person would probably understand before the adults. "It can be done only as we accept that love from God ourselves, and then turn and reflect it on to those around us—regardless of who they are. Loving like that is the true sign of royalty, of being sons and daughters of God."



HOW TO TREAT AN ENEMY

Activity One

Instructions: Calculate the number that goes with each letter and then place the letter in the correct numbered blank below.

B = 6 x 6 = ______	H = 30 ÷ 5 = ______	N = 7 x 5 = ______	T = 72 ÷ 9 = ______
D = 6 x 7 = ______	I = 24 ÷ 6 = ______	O = 7 x 7 = ______	U = 80 ÷ 8 = ______
E = 6 x 8 = ______	L = 18 ÷ 6 = ______	R = 7 x 8 = ______	V = 121 ÷ 11 = ______
G = 6 x 9 = ______	M = 12 ÷ 12 = ______	S = 7 x 9 = ______	Y = 144 ÷ 12 = ______

"___ ___ ___   ___ ___ ___ ___   ___ ___ ___ ___   ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___,   ___ ___

36 10 8   3 49 11 48   12 49 10 56   48 35 48 1 4 48 63   42 49

___ ___ ___ ___   ___ ___   ___ ___ ___ ___" (Luke 6:35).

54 49 49 42   8 49   8 6 48 1

Activity Two

Missing Vowels.

Instructions: Insert vowels (A, E, I, O, U) to complete the words and place them in the spaces below to give the hidden verse.

fyrnmyshngryfdhmfhsthrstygvhmsmthngtdrnkrmns

"___ ___   ___ ___ ___ ___   ___ ___ ___ ___ ___   ___ ___   ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___,

___ ___ ___ ___   ___ ___ ___;   ___ ___   ___ ___   ___ ___   ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___,

___ ___ ___ ___   ___ ___ ___   ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___   ___ ___

___ ___ ___ ___ ___" (___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ 12:20).