

Complete-A-Project Bible Search: Jesus Teaches about Love

By Sister Alice Ann Pfeifer, CSA

Jared wanted to give Kristina the ten dollars he had in his pocket.

The money was supposed to be for his lunch and a science kit he had been wanting ever since his last trip to the museum. But he wanted Kristina to have the money.

Jared didn't know Kristina very well. She was a new classmate who understood very little English. A few moments earlier, Kristina had fallen on the marble stairs of the museum's main entrance. After their teacher, Mr. Hall, helped her get up, everyone could see that her ankle could not hold her weight.

"We'll call your parents because you need to go the hospital," Mr. Hall said urgently.

"No, no," Kristina moaned. "No money."

"Don't worry about that," Mr. Hall insisted. "You need to see a doctor."

"No," Kristina pleaded. "No, please. No money."

That's when Jared thrust the money into Kristina's hand. She returned an anxious look, but relaxed when Jared smiled and said, "Go ahead. You need it more than I do."

Kristina was helped into a wheelchair that a museum worker had brought. Just before wheeling her away, Mr. Hall introduced Miss Sanchez. "She will take you and your adult companions on the tour. Please be good listeners, and I'll meet you here again at lunchtime. Kristina will be okay."

This story gives us an example of what Jesus teaches about love (Matthew 5:38-48). Jesus said:

"You have _____ that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a _____.' But I say to you, offer no _____ to one who is evil. When someone strikes you on [your] right _____, turn the other one to him as well. If anyone wants to go to law with you over your _____, hand him your _____ as well.

"Should anyone press you into _____ for one mile, go with him for two miles. _____ to the one who asks of you, and do not turn your _____ on one who wants to _____.

"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and _____ your enemy.' But I say to you, _____ your enemies, and pray

for those who _____ you, that you may be children of your heavenly _____, for he makes his sun rise on the _____ and the good, and causes rain to fall on the just and the _____.

“For if you love those who love you, what _____ will you have? Do not the _____ collectors do the same? And if you greet your brothers only, what is _____ about that? Do not the _____ do the same? So be _____, just as your heavenly Father is perfect.”

Jared’s classmate Barney offered to split his lunch money so that Jared would be able to buy his lunch at the museum café.

The next morning in class, Mr. Hall returned Jared’s money. Kristina didn’t understand that she wouldn’t need money at the hospital. “Thanks for your kindness, Jared. You’re a good guy.”

Later in the day, Mr. Hall asked the class to begin thinking about what they might do for the school’s upcoming Make-a-Difference Week. He said their project didn’t need to involve donating money. They could volunteer their time and service.

“But why can’t it be money, Mr. Hall?” Barney asked. “What if we *want* to give time *and* money? Yesterday when I asked Jared if it bothered him to give away the money he had, he said no ’cause his grandpa says that people come first and things come second. So why don’t we think about doing a fundraiser *and* volunteering our time and service to people?”

Because of Jared’s example of love and care, the class was ready to brainstorm about a lot of things they could do to make a difference in the lives of others.

Permission is granted to copy this Bible Search for use with your students and their families.