

Family Page

Background Reflection

Throughout his life and by his death, Jesus showed us powerful examples of true love. He gave us everything because of his love, and he made it clear that we are called to the same level of love in our lives through our words and actions.

We know that we cannot merely say we love God and then disregard other people who are God's children. Loving others is one of the most authentic ways to show God how much we love him. In a special way, our love and care should extend to those who are poor or vulnerable. In this way, we can help others experience God's love through us. It is also a way our love for others can help change the world.

In this chapter, the message is clear: we must love one another. As you share this message with your child, be sure you have taken time to ask Jesus to help you to be more like him, to love more like him, in the words and actions of your everyday life.

Family Activities

- Plan a special family day. Brainstorm ways to play together, and make it a day to enjoy one another's company. Share how being together is an expression of love.
- Find a way to serve someone in need. Find a place to volunteer or seek a way to donate items to a local charity that serves the poor. Teach your child that we must love one another because God first loved us, and involve them in your service in some way.
- Watch the video "Love Comes From God | VALENTINE'S DAY" (YouTube, 2:10) together. Read the words to your child if needed, and discuss how your family can do more to show love to one another the same way God shows love to us.

People of Faith

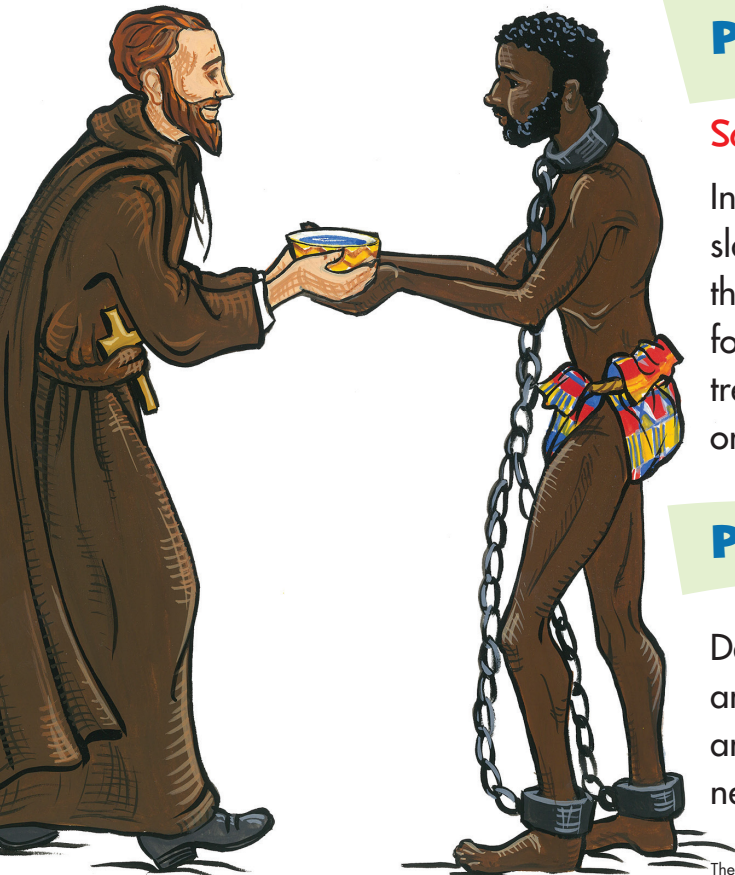
Saint Peter Claver (1581-1654)

In South America, Saint Peter Claver cared for the slaves brought from Africa. He fed them, cared for them, and taught them about God's love. He stood up for them as human beings and told slave owners to treat them fairly. We celebrate Saint Peter's feast day on September 9.

Prayer

Pray this prayer together as a family, beginning and ending with the Sign of the Cross.

Dear Jesus, you taught us that we must love one another. Help us to show love to others in our words and actions, especially to those who are poor and in need. Amen.



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