

In God's hands - God is compassionate

We have heard many stories in the Bible of Jesus' miracles; water turned into wine, feeding 5000 people and healing many others. The official in today's story had also heard about Jesus and when his son was ill he decided to find Jesus. Then something very surprising happened



Watch our video with the story here: <https://youtu.be/UjUsC5-gqwY>

You might also like to watch the Virtual Sunday School session based on this story here: <https://youtu.be/1xHabt4Ahpq>

Read how Jesus heals the official's son in the Bible in John 4: 43-54

I wonder what surprised you most about this story?

In verse 53 it says the official believed when he heard what time his son was healed - why do you think this was?

I wonder what this story tells us about God?

God is compassionate, that means he is kind and loving and caring and shows concern for people.

There are some great craft and activity ideas on both the videos this week, and here are a few more things you can do at home:

Challenge everyone in your family to pause for a quick prayer on the hour every hour throughout the day or decide on a time to pray together each day for a whole week, maybe at 7am and 7pm?

Pray - maybe you can think of someone who is sad or having a difficult time at the moment. Imagine how this person feels and then think about how you feel about this person. Do you want to help them? Just like the official went to Jesus to ask for help for his son, we can go to Jesus in prayer and ask him to help people. By doing this we are acting compassionately (kindly) and we can also ask God to help them and show his compassion (kindness) to them.

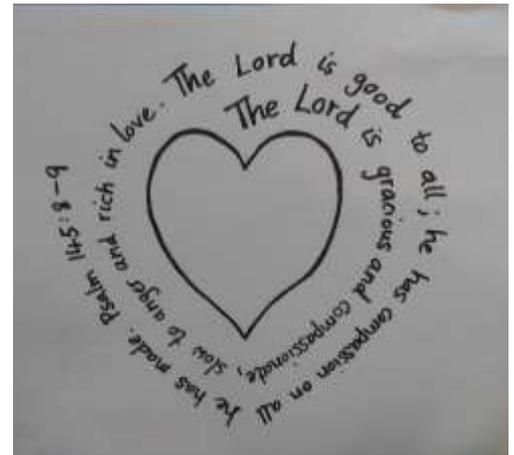
Pray some simple prayers to God and ask him to help the person you have thought of. You might also like to do something this week to show them that God loves them and cares for them - what could you do?

Write an acrostic poem - do you know what the word 'compassion' means? If you have compassion it means you are caring, kind, loving and concerned for people. Write the word 'COMPASSION' vertically down the side of a piece of paper. See if you can think of a phrase for each of the letters - for example 'C' could stand for 'Caring for others', 'O' for 'Offering to help others' and so on.

Make a poster - draw a heart in the middle of a piece of paper and around the outside write this verse and then decorate your poster:

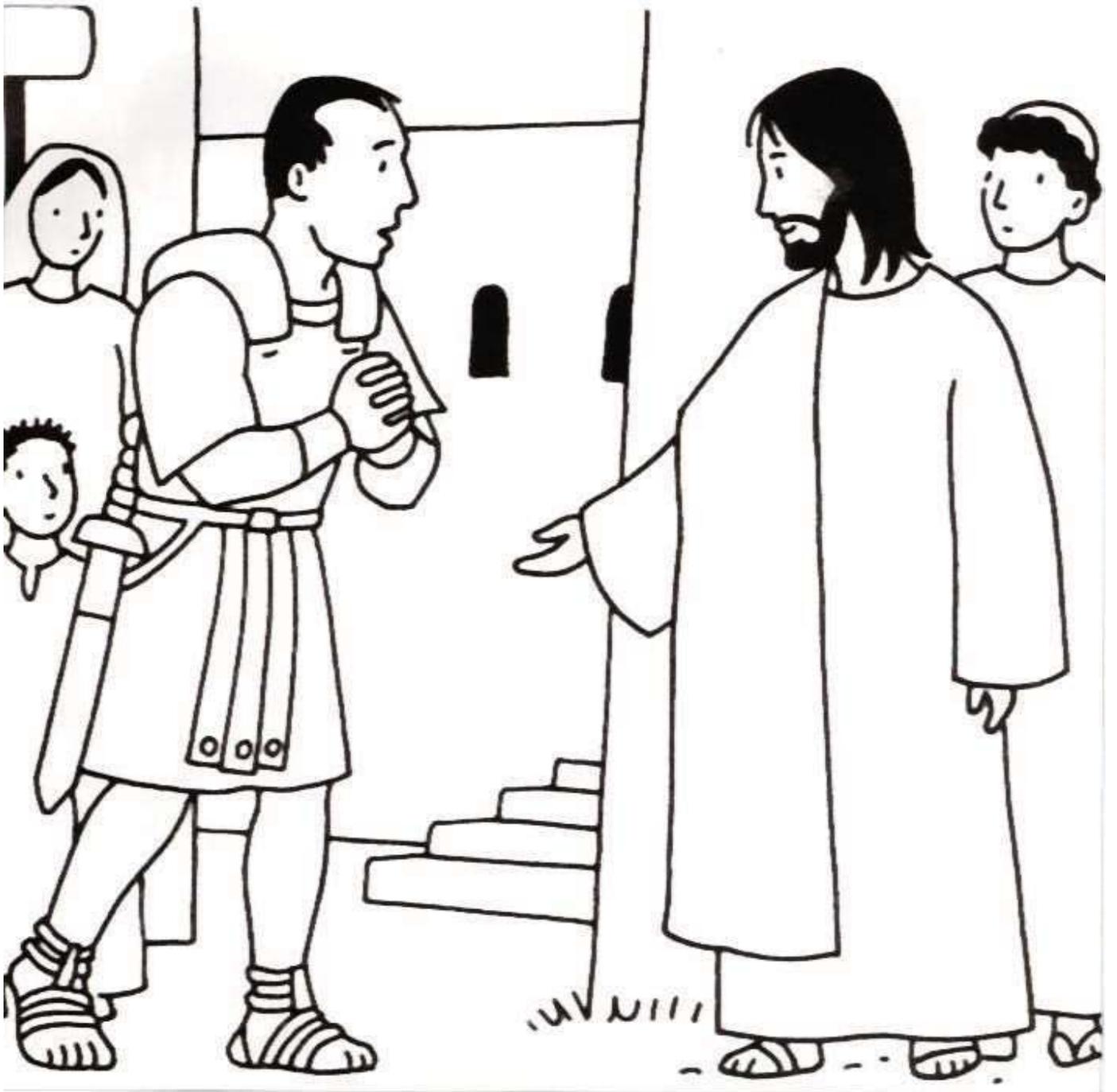
"The LORD is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love. The LORD is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made."

Psalm 145:8-9



Make a clock out of paper and card, or you could use a paper plate. Use a split pin to attach the hands if you have one. Decorate the clock with stickers or you could draw pictures of what you do at different times of the day.

Or you could make 'clock' biscuits or cakes like the ones Margaret made on the video to remind you of the story.



Then Jesus told him, "Go back home. Your son will live!" And the man believed what Jesus said and started home. John 4:50