



# Love your enemies

## Children's Story

All Saints Day

**Title:** Love Your Enemies  
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**Text:** Luke 6:20-31 (Today's story  
focuses on v:27-31)  
**Theme:** Jesus wants us to surprise  
people who are mean to us by  
being kind and helpful, even if  
that is hard and unusual.

### Needed:

Apple, small milk carton, ball cap and coat,  
toy cars, something special to you.

### Wondering Questions:

- I wonder if these stories could be true.
- I wonder if children would give away their things to another person.
- I wonder what happened when these children did the hard but unselfish thing.

### Gathering Activity:

Welcome and show the children the special item you have brought. Explain why it is special. Ask them if they think that you would give it away. Ask them how they think you'd feel if the item were lost, stolen or taken away from you. Explain that you have three stories for them where people have special things taken away from them and encourage them to settle into good listening positions and attitudes. While telling the story, pantomime the story or get some older children to act it out, using the props listed above.

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## Story:

Our three stories are about a girl named Tracy, a boy named James and another boy named Paul.

Once, there was a little girl named Tracy. She was walking home from school. On her way home from school, she was going to have a snack; she had an apple and some milk. Her mom had given her the apple before school. It was the reddest, sweetest-looking apple and the girl loved apples. She shined it on her sleeve and was just about to bite into it when another girl ran up and grabbed the apple from her. Before she could say anything, the other girl took a big bite out of the apple. Tracy looked at the other girl. The girl started to run away, but Tracy shouted, "Wait!"

### What do you think happened next?

When the girl stopped, Tracy said, "You must be very hungry. Would you like some milk, too?" The girl was surprised, but then came back to Tracy and took the milk. "Thank you," she said. "I haven't eaten all day because my mom didn't pack a lunch for me." Tracy was glad that she'd shared the apple.

The next day, a boy named James was walking to the store. He was wearing his new baseball cap; he'd gotten it for his birthday and it had his favourite football team's logo on it (e.g. *the Blue Bombers*). As he walked, it started to get windy and cool. He pulled up his jacket collar and walked on. When he was almost home, a bigger boy ran up to him and grabbed his cap! Before James could say anything, the boy put the cap on his head and started to run away, but James shouted, "Wait!"

### What do you think happened next?

When the boy stopped, James said, "You must be very cold. Would you like to borrow my jacket, too?" The boy was surprised, but came back to James and took his jacket. "Thanks," he said, "My jacket is too small for me, but I'll give these back when my dad buys me a new one." James was glad that he'd offered his jacket.

The next day, a boy named Paul was playing with his new toy car in the sandbox. He'd just gotten the car from his Grandma. It was red and went very fast. He made lots of roads in the sandbox to drive it on. Suddenly, a girl ran into the sandbox and grabbed James' car. Before he could do anything, she shoved it into her pocket and started to run away. But James shouted, "Wait!"

### What do you think happened next?

The girl stopped and James said, "That's my favourite car, but you can play with it if you want. I've already made some pretty neat roads here and I have some other cars, too. You wanna come see?" The girl was surprised, but came back to James. "Thanks," she said. "No one ever lets me play with them." "Maybe you shouldn't take their toys," thought James, but he decided not to bring it up right then. They made a great big city in the sand and played together all afternoon.

### Prayer:

Jesus, help us to be kind and generous to people when they're not kind to us. Help us to look for ways to help people and to remember to treat others the way we would like to be treated.