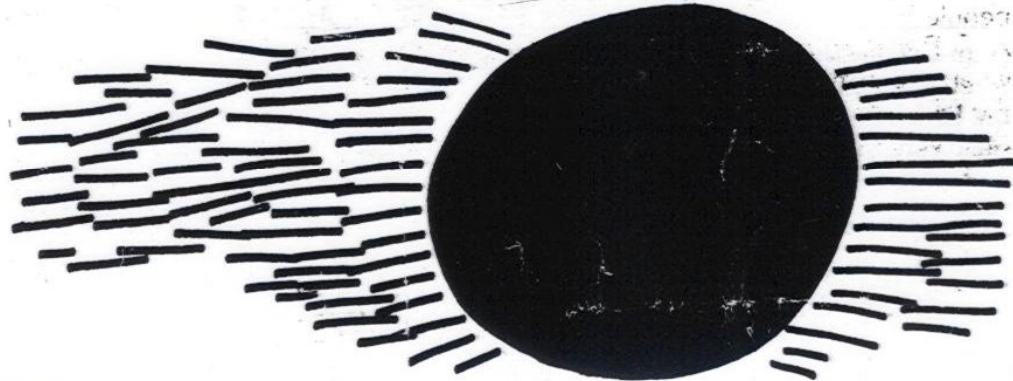




WRITTEN BY: SUSAN MURPHY ILLUSTRATIONS BY: DARREN MURPHY



NOTE TO PARENTS

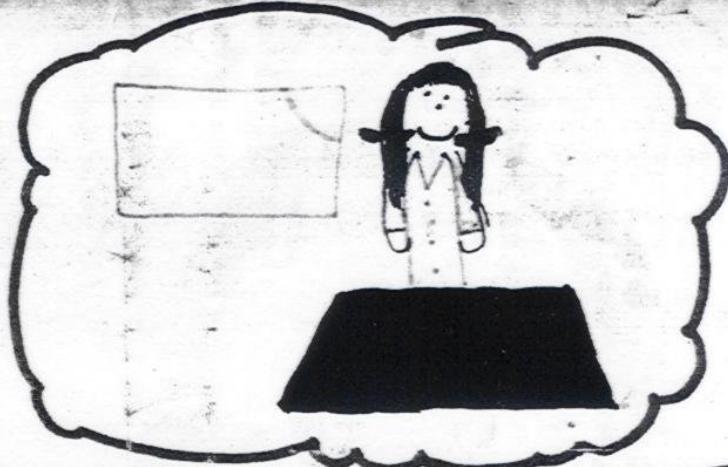
There are many young children who find it difficult to associate events in their day to day life with what God says we should do.

In this story, I have attempted to deal with one aspect of Christian life — that of being able to help others. I have also tried to show how easy it is for little children to get things out of context. After hearing a religious story they may be overawed by God's great power in all things, finding it difficult to accept that they are able to do what is required of them in their routine activities.

This story sets out to overcome the problem.

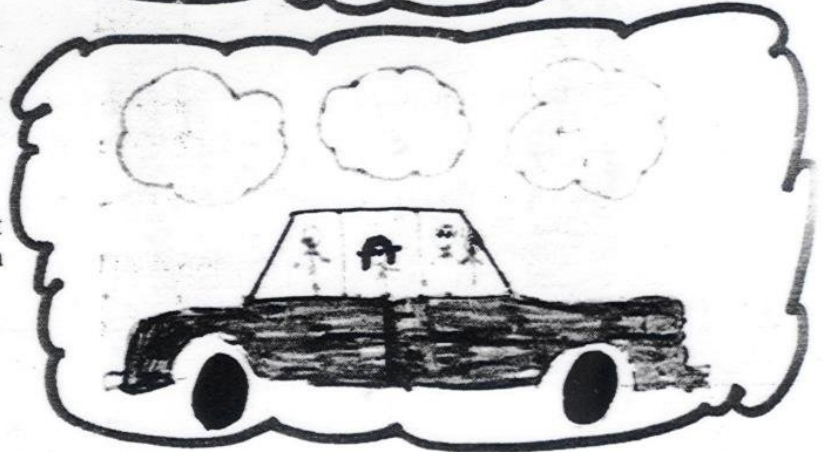
Sally sat quietly in the Sunday School room. She listened carefully to Miss Williams, the teacher, who was telling the children a story about Jesus helping people who were in trouble.

"See if you can all be good helpers this week," said Miss Williams. "God wants to help us to show our love for one another".



Sally wished she could help people, as Jesus does, but she could not think of anything special she could do. Jesus always wanted to help people she thought to herself, and He knew how to help them in the very best way.

After Sunday School, Sally went to visit Aunt Pat with Mummy and Daddy and her little brother, Timothy.

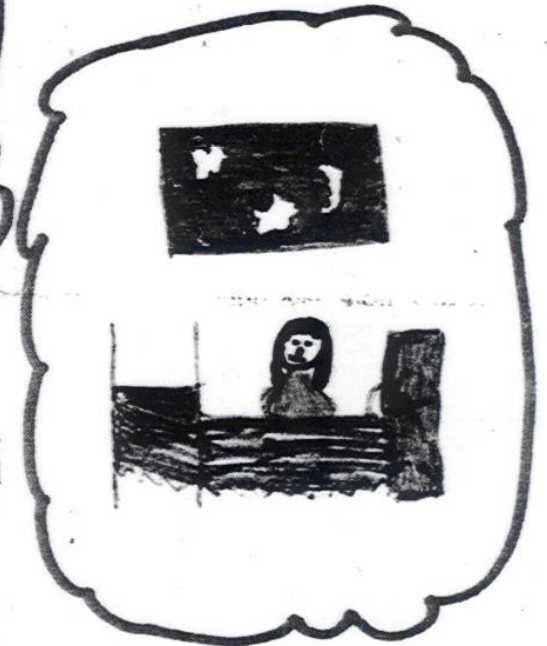


At lunchtime, while Sally was setting the table for Aunt Pat, she was still trying to think of special ways she could help people.

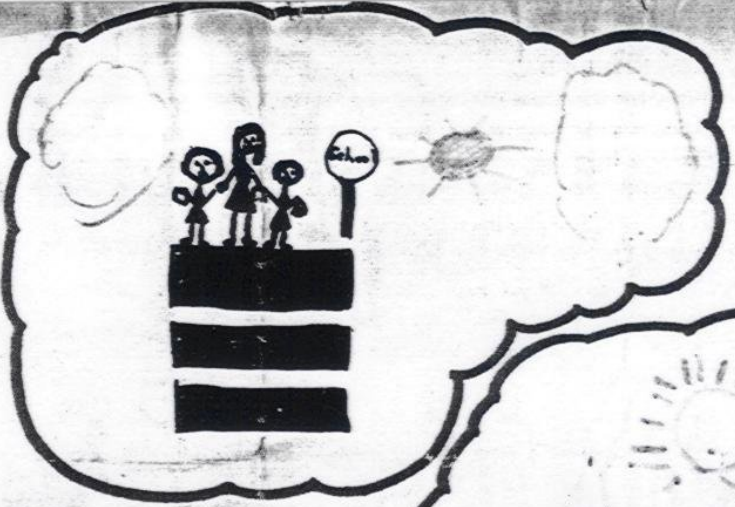
Aunt Pat was very pleased when she came in and saw the table set; she thanked Sally very much.



That night, before getting into bed, Sally said her prayers. "Dear Jesus, please tell me some special things that I can do to help people, as you do," she said. Mummy and Daddy were very pleased when they heard Sally saying this prayer.



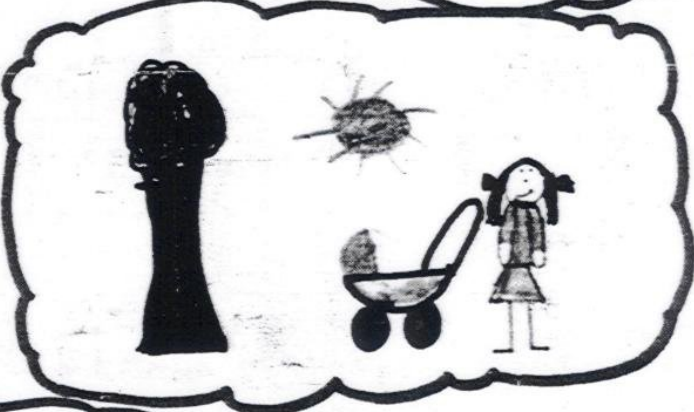
The next morning on the way to school, Sally saw two little children ready to run across the road. She hurried over to them, and taking them both by the hand, she led them to the pedestrian crossing where they all crossed safely. "Thank you Sally," they said as they reached the other side.



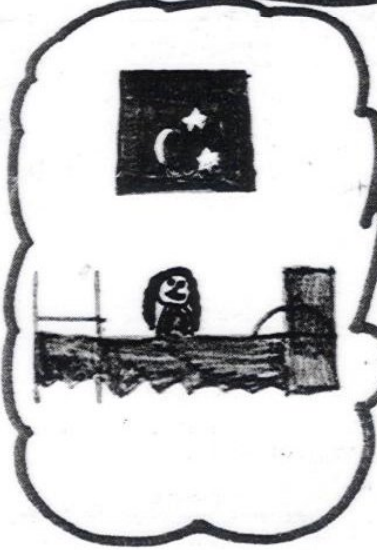
The next afternoon, coming home from school, Sally met old Mrs. Brown. She was carrying a very heavy bag. "May I carry your bag for you, Mrs. Brown?" asked Sally. "Thank you Sally," said Mrs. Brown gratefully. As she walked along, Sally was still trying to think of special things she could do to help people.



On Thursday Sally was watching Mrs. Carey's baby in his pram, while Mrs. Carey was inside talking to Mummy. Sally was getting sad. "What am I going to tell Miss Williams on Sunday," she said to herself. "I want to be a special helper for Jesus, but there is nothing I can do that is special. Anyone can mind a baby!" she sighed.



Going to bed that night, Sally said her prayers. "Dear Jesus, today is Thursday and there are only two more days until Sunday. Please help me to do something special before then," she said. Then, she climbed into bed and was soon fast asleep.



On Friday evening, Sally was wiping the dishes. Mummy saw that she was very unhappy and asked her: "What is the matter Sally? You seem so sad." Sally started to cry and said: "I want so much to be a special helper for Jesus, but all the things I do are so ordinary."



"What is wrong with ordinary things, Sally?" asked Mummy, "They are just as important as any special things you could do. You helped Aunt Pat last Sunday with the table. You took those two little children across the street. What about Mrs. Brown's bag and Mrs. Carey's baby? Now, you are helping me with the dishes," said Mummy.

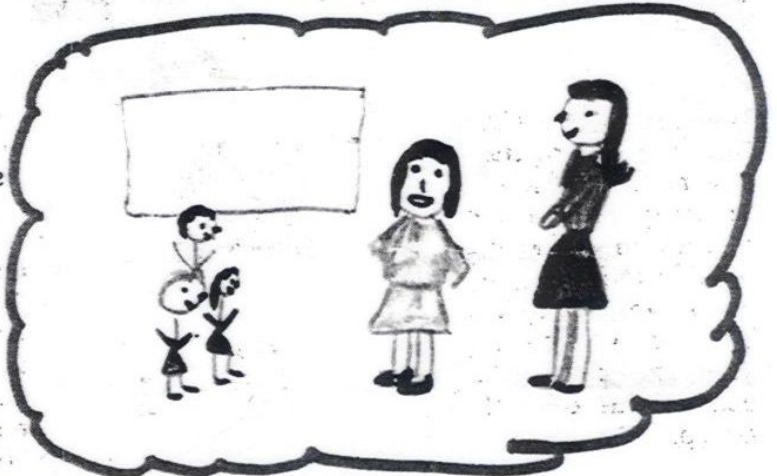


"I would say you have been a very good helper this week, Sally," said Mummy giving her a big hug. "You have been doing the things Jesus expects you to do. I am sure Miss Williams did not say you had to do special things. She just told you to help in the best way you can."



Sally laughed. Mummy was right. She had been trying so hard to think of special things to do. She had not noticed that all week long she had been doing what she was meant to do — helping people. It did not matter at all, that the things she had done seemed ordinary for she was helping people, and that is what Jesus would do.

Sally could hardly wait for her turn to tell the Sunday School class the things she had done to help people during the week. That night it was a very special prayer she said: "Thank you Jesus, for helping me to be a helper to others."



I am sure there are things God wants you to do to help other people. When you say your prayers ask Him to show you how to be like Jesus.

Like Sally, my son Darren, aged 4 years, wants to be a helper too, and so did all the drawings for this story.

Copies available for Sunday Schools or private use. Orders should be placed by 30th November. Cost including postage: \$1.50 for minimum order of 10 copies.