

## **CHRIST-LIKE CHARACTER LESSONS**

### **COMPASSION:**

#### **“WORSE THAN DIRT!”**

*Optional for younger kids: Kids will have fun acting out this Bible story with stuffed toys. Sprinkle a stuffed animal with some baking soda to represent it being “unclean.” Have the sprinkled stuffy call out Unclean! Unclean! to warn the other animals to stay away or risk becoming “diseased.” Let another stuffed animal who is playing the part of Jesus use a vacuum cleaner to “heal” the diseased stuffed animal.*

**Read Leviticus 13:45-46 and Luke 5:12-13.**

#### **Questions for discussion**

1. If you rolled in the mud, what would your mom or dad say?
2. Would your mom hug you if you were covered in mud?
3. What would she ask you to do?
4. How would you feel if you got dirt on your skin that wouldn't come off, even after a bath?
5. In Bible times, where did the people who had skin diseases have to live?
6. Why did they have to go and live by themselves?
7. How would you feel if you could not live in your home with your family?
8. Why do you think Jesus touched the man who had leprosy?
9. Do you know anyone who could be considered an outcast?
10. How can you share Jesus' love with him or her?

#### **Key concepts**

When we are dirty, others generally don't want to touch us. But we can get clean by taking a bath. Leprosy is a highly contagious skin disease. Having leprosy is like having permanently dirty skin that no one wants to touch.

In Bible times, people who had infectious skin diseases like leprosy had to live outside the city so their disease would not be passed on to other people. Luke tells a story of a man with leprosy who came to see Jesus, begging Jesus to cure his leprosy. The Bible says that Jesus was filled with compassion for the man and that He reached out His hand and touched the man. Jesus said, “Be clean!” and the man was healed (Luke 12:13).

Jesus did more than feel sorry for the man. He saw the man's painful situation and did something about it. When we show concern for and meet the needs of those who are hurting, we are being like Jesus.

#### **Relevant Scripture**

- ❖ 1 John 4:21 “And this commandment we have from Him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.”