

# Our Family That Helps



**FIRST WITNESSES**  
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It was a chilly fall morning when the Johnson family noticed something unusual on their street. Their neighbor, Mr. Lewis, who lived alone, wasn't outside sweeping his porch like he always did. His car hadn't moved in days.

At breakfast, Mrs. Johnson said, "I heard Mr. Lewis has been sick. He doesn't have any family nearby. I think he might need some help."

Right away, the Johnson kids—Emma and Lucas—wanted to do something. "Let's make him soup!" Emma said. "And we can rake his leaves," added Lucas.

The whole family got to work. While Mom made a big pot of chicken soup, Dad and Lucas raked the yard next door. Emma wrote a cheerful card with a Bible verse: "*Love your neighbor as yourself.*"

When they knocked on Mr. Lewis's door, he opened it slowly, looking tired but grateful. "I didn't know what I was going to eat today," he said softly. "Thank you so much."

Over the next few weeks, the Johnson family kept helping. They brought

groceries, fixed a broken step on his porch, and sometimes just sat and talked so he wouldn't feel lonely.

One evening, after visiting Mr. Lewis, Dad read from the Bible: "Jesus told a story about a rich man who ignored a poor, sick man named Lazarus. The rich man had everything he wanted but never helped. Jesus wanted people to learn that God wants us to care for those in need."

Emma thought for a moment. "So when we help Mr. Lewis, we're doing what Jesus wants?"

"Exactly," Dad said. "When we care for others, we show God's love in real ways."

**The Lesson:** The Johnson family learned that helping someone doesn't always mean doing big things. Sometimes it's a warm meal, a friendly smile, or raking leaves. But every act of kindness matters to God.

***When we help people in need, we share God's love—and make the world a kinder, brighter place.***

*Based on Luke 16:19-31.*



**The Institute for Catholic Formation**  
Diocese of Bridgeport