

# great expectations

WEEK 3

day 1

## Read LUKE 10:36-37

Firefighters and policemen are heroes in our communities for the life-saving work they do. Can you imagine if they weren't responsible to act when something goes wrong? If your house was on fire and the firemen showed up late, or if someone stole your car and the policemen just said they were sorry but didn't try to do anything to help, that wouldn't be very good or responsible, would it? We trust these guys because their job is to help us and the people around us.

How can you help others in your community? Brainstorm three different and creative ways:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Now circle or star just one of those ways and go and do it today!

**THANK** God for all of the people in your community who help others every day.

day 2

## Read LUKE 3:10-11

Have you heard the phrase, "He'd give you the shirt off his back"? It's an expression referring to someone who is willing to make a sacrifice to help others in need no matter what it costs. We don't usually have to go to such extremes as to give others the actual clothes we are wearing, but we can certainly find ways to help people in need. If we look around our rooms, with toys and clothes, or our kitchen, with food and drinks, we can probably find things to share with others.

Ask a parent for help finding some clothes, toys, or food around the house that you can give to a local shelter or place in your community that helps people when they need it most. Is there a way to give some of your time more regularly?

**ASK** God to help you be responsible with your actions by helping others in need.

day 3

### Read James 2:15-17

Pat your belly for a few seconds while saying, "Pat your belly, pat your belly, pat your belly" over and over. Then keep saying "Pat your belly" over and over, but start rubbing your head instead. Do you find yourself trying to pat your belly anyway?

It feels strange to say one thing and do another, doesn't it? But so often we do that in life. You might say something to your sister like, "I'm sorry you had a bad day," but then you don't do anything that shows you care, like offering to do her chores that night. Or you might tell your mom you love her, but you yell at her when she won't let you watch extra TV one day. It's hard to have our actions match our words, but others can trust us when we say and DO the right thing.

**LOOK** for ways to have your actions match your words.

day 4

### Read 1 John 3:16-18

Have you ever met someone who's "all talk"? In other words, they talk a big game, but when it comes to actually doing something, they don't follow through.

Eventually talk runs out, and if someone doesn't follow through, it doesn't really mean much, does it? The amazing thing about Jesus is that He didn't just SAY He loved us, He showed us by willingly dying on the cross for us. Talk about walking the talk!

Think about something you've been talking about lately—like something you promised your parents or friends you would do. Make a plan to put that talk into action TODAY! Write your plan out here in baby steps and then get going:

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**KNOW** that talk means very little without action!