



**COMMUNITY SERVICES DAY
(Sabbath School Program)**

May 11, 2019

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Friendship Community Clinic

Scripture Reference: **Matthew 25:34 – 40**

Opening Hymn: **“Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service” *SDA Hymnal*, No. 363**

Preparation

The superintendent should wear a doctor’s white coat. His/her assistant should wear a nurse’s uniform or “scrubs.” Set up the stage to resemble a doctor’s office with a waiting room. The doctor (superintendent) sits at a table that holds bottles, medicines, tissues, and a pair of love glasses (see attachment). You will also need a bottle of water, a piece of fruit, a sandwich, a prescription, an agenda book, and an appointment card. In lieu of the love glasses attachment, you could use a pair of glasses with heart-shaped lenses. A large sign on the front of the table says “Friendship Community Clinic” (this may also be projected on a screen). Prepare three chairs for the patients in the waiting room. The patients should wear a readable nametag for Mr. Homeless, Miss Stranger, Mrs. Lonely.

Welcome

Doctor: *Good morning and welcome to Friendship Community Clinic! I am Dr. Friendship. This morning we will have a few appointments with patients from our own neighborhood. While our waiting room is filling up, let’s join in singing Hymn No 363, “Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service.”*

(Patients enter the waiting room and take their places during the hymn.)

Community Clinic

Doctor: *We are ready to begin. I want to ask my assistant to pray for the Lord’s direction so that we may give our patients the best possible treatment this morning.*

The nurse asks the congregation to join in the opening prayer. After the prayer, the nurse calls the first patient.

Nurse: *Mr. Homeless, the doctor will see you now.* (Mr. Homeless walks over to the doctor's table.)

Doctor: *Hello, Mr. Homeless. Please sit down.* (Doctor puts on his/her love glasses.) *I see that you have an urgent need for something to eat and something to drink. I wonder why no one in this neighborhood has noticed that you are hungry and thirsty?* (Doctor slowly puts down the glasses.) *Here, take this medicine from the Friendship Community Pantry, eat and drink and you will feel better.* (The doctor gives the patient a bottle of water, a piece of fruit, and a sandwich. The patient walks out of the room with a smile on his face).

Doctor: *Nurse, please call the next patient.*

Nurse: *Miss Stranger, the doctor will see you now.* (Miss Stranger doesn't seem to understand the nurse. The nurse shows in non-verbal language that the doctor wants to see her.)

Doctor: *Good morning, Miss Stranger. Do sit down.* (Miss Stranger remains standing. The doctor shows in non-verbal language that she can sit down. Doctor puts on the love glasses.) *I understand that you have come from another country recently and are a stranger in our community. I wonder why no one in our neighborhood has noticed that you are a stranger.* (Doctor puts down the glasses.) *Here. I would like you to take this prescription to one of our specialists for our second-language class and our community cooking class.* (Doctor gives patient a prescription.) *We expect that your participation in this class will help you to find your place in our community.* (Patient shakes hand with doctor and leaves with a smile on her face.)

Doctor: *Nurse, please call our last patient for this morning.*

Nurse: *Mrs. Lonely, the doctor will see you now.* (Mrs. Lonely walks slowly over to the doctor's table.)

Doctor: *Good morning, Mrs. Lonely. Please sit down. Let's see what we can find. I need to check your pulse.* (Doctor puts on the love glasses and feels pulse of the patient. The doctor puts down the glasses and looks concerned.) *Mrs. Lonely, I notice that your heartbeat is below normal. Your heart seems to be hurt by loneliness. I see that you have an urgent need for friends that visit you and show an interest in your wellbeing. Nurse, please schedule regular house visits for Mrs. Lonely from our community visitor team. For her to become healthy and happy, I suggest that she receives this treatment often.* (The nurse writes appointments in an agenda and gives the patient her first appointment card. Patient leaves with a smile on her face.)

Nurse: *All the prescriptions Dr. Friendship gave to the patients this morning are taken from the Bible. In Matthew 25:34-40 Jesus gives us advice on how to serve our community; the poor, the stranger, and the suffering. Let's read it together.* (Project Scripture reading Matthew 25:34-40 on the screen.)

Mrs. Happy (formerly Mrs. Lonely—change her nametag): *The first team that visited me was a group of children from the children’s choir. God has gifted them with the beautiful talent of song. We now have the privilege of listening to a special song by the children’s choir.* (If the church has no children’s choir please adapt with a youth choir/group or soloist.) Suggestion for special music: “We are His hands.” (For lyrics and chords, see attachment.)

(After the special song, a panel will take place. The three chairs are now used to form the panel. The love glasses and a pair of self-glasses (a pair of glasses covered with tape) are put on a small table in front of the panel. Dr. Friendship, Nurse Connect-and-Share, and Mrs. Happy take place in the panel.)

Ministering Love to a Community in Need

Doctor: *May I please introduce to you two members of our SALT panel. SALT stands for Social Action Leadership Team.* (SALT projected on screen.) *We want to welcome Nurse Connect-and-Share and Mrs. Happy who recently joined our SALT team.* (Nurse and Mrs. Happy wave to the congregation.) *What a beautiful song was presented to us. God calls our church community to be His hands, His eyes, His feet, and His voice. Nobody is too small, and no effort is too small to make a difference.*

Mrs. Happy: *I agree with you Dr. Friendship. One person can make a difference and everyone should try. I was lonely, but the children of the church and the visitor team made a difference in my life. I am so glad to be called Mrs. Happy now and that I can share happiness with others. Every member of the body of Christ is called to make a difference. Every member has talents to be used for the uplifting of humanity. The active involvement of church members in Adventist Community Services is a recipe for a healthy, thriving Church.*

Nurse: *I think you owe us an explanation of the glasses, Dr. Friendship.* (Nurse points to the glasses on the table.)

Doctor: *You will find out if you try them on.* (Doctor gives Nurse the self-glasses. Nurse tries them on.)

Nurse: *Hmm. These glasses make me see only me, myself, and I. With these glasses on, how can I ever see the needs that exist in our community?* (Nurse takes off glasses. Doctor hands her the love glasses.) *Wow! I see much clearer now.* (Nurse looks around her with glasses on.) *I can see the needs of others that I didn’t notice before! Now I see how we can be God’s hands to provide for the needy, the poor, and the suffering.*

Doctor: *Jesus is our example in Community Services. In The Ministry of Healing we read that He “mingled with men as One who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. Then He bade them, ‘Follow Me.’”* (Project quote from *Ministry of Healing*, p. 143 on the screen.)

Mrs. Happy: *Does that mean God wants you and me to step out and connect with people in our community?*

Doctor: *Exactly! And I suggest we all wear a pair of love glasses to see and supply other's needs as the Lord provides. Once we win their confidence, God will bless our efforts and precious souls will enter our church. And, even if the people we serve don't choose to come to our church, we will serve them anyway, in Jesus' name.*

Mrs. Happy: *Taking part in the class discussion during lesson study is also a way to connect with another. I want to ask one of our teachers to pray and ask the Lord to give us a clear understanding of the needs of others during our lesson study. (One of teachers prays for lesson study.)*

LESSON STUDY

Conclusion**

Nurse: *I choose to wear this pair of love glasses every day. (Shows love glasses to the audience.) Is there anyone in the congregation that would also like to wear a pair of love glasses and minister to someone in need? Please raise your hand. (Wait for members to raise their hands. Assistants distribute copies of the love glasses handout or glasses to the audience.)*

Doctor: *Now that we are prepared to mingle and connect with our community and supply their needs through Adventist Community Services, let us stand for prayer to close our Friendship Community Sabbath School. (Congregation stands and participates in final prayer).*

****If your Sabbath School does not reconvene following the lesson study, present the conclusion prior to breaking up for the lesson study.**

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Special Song for CHILDREN'S CHOIR: "We Are His Hands" by Jeff Wood

Retrieved from: <http://www.hymnalaccompanist.com/hios/hos140.html> (track)
https://tabs.ultimate-guitar.com/tab/jeff_wood/we_are_his_chords_1962487 (chords)

We are His hands to touch the world around us.
We are His feet to go where He may lead,
And we are His love burning in the darkness,
We are His love shining in the night.

We are His eyes to see the need in others.
We are His voice to tell of His return,
And we are His love burning in the darkness,
We are His love shining in the night.

Optional for YOUTH CHOIR: "Go Make a Difference"

Retrieved from:
https://www.lyricsmode.com/lyrics/s/steve_angrisano/go_make_a_difference.html
<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=lyrics+go+make+a+difference&view=detail&mid=DD37E0EFD53405A4A80DD37E0EFD53405A4A80&FORM=VIRE>

Chorus:
Go make a difference, we can make a difference
Go make a difference in the world
Go make a difference we can make a difference
Go make a difference in the world

First Verse:
We are the salt in the earth, called to let the people see
The love of God in you and me
We are the light of the world, not to be hidden, but be seen
Go make a difference in the world

Chorus

Second Verse:
We are the hands of Christ, reaching out to those in need
The face of God for all to see
We are the spirit of hope, we are the voice of peace
Go make a difference in the world.

