



Date: _____
Series: Giving to God
Winter Year 2, Lesson 31

Give Gifts Daily—Make It a Habit

Take Home Point: *Clothe yourself with daily habits of giving. *Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson.

Bible Event: Colossians 3:12

Key Verse: Colossians 3:12 (NIV), “Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.”

We will help kids know:

- They can establish a daily habit, or lifestyle, of giving.
- The power for daily giving comes from understanding how God daily gives to us by choosing us as his own.
- As we put on clothes every day, we spiritually can also put on compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.

We will help kids feel:

- Inspired to remember to put on a daily attitude of giving.
- Special because they have been chosen and set apart by God through faith in Christ.

We will help kids do:

- Make a craft to hang in their closet to remind them to practice putting on a daily attitude of giving.
- Make cards and place each in an envelope addressed to themselves to remind them to practice the habit of giving.

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THIS LESSON'S ROADMAP

DESTINATION	PAGE #	DISCOVERIES ON YOUR JOURNEY	SUPPLIES NEEDED
Small Group Warm-Up 	3	Students will think about helpful reminders that come in the mail.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> three stamped envelopes pens/pencils
Large Group 	4 8 10 12	<p>Overview</p> <p>Introduction: General Osity is a storefront bell ringer for charity. He chooses a volunteer from the audience who trusts Jesus as his/her Lord and Savior. This special chosen volunteer becomes an actor identified as “Dearly Loved Person” and clothed with certain spiritual gifts.</p> <p>Audience Participation Drama: Additional volunteers are chosen to act out scenes. The audience guesses what the actor is doing. Then, the Dearly Loved Person figures out a way to demonstrate a gift that the actor needs in order to show what it looks like to <i>*clothe ourselves with daily habits of giving.</i> Props may be used with scenario cards.</p> <p>Appendices</p>	<p><i>Costume:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> presenter is dressed as a storefront holiday bell ringer for charity <p><i>Props:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> pot with lid hanging from a pole six cards, each cut to look like a different piece of clothing, e.g.; shirt, pants, jacket, hat, socks and boxer shorts—each has on it a word: compassion (sympathy), kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience heavy tape gif-wrapped hanger nametag reading “Dearly Loved Person” printed scenario cards (see appendix) timer, stop watch, or bell to signal 30 second intervals
Small Group Application 	4	Kids will make a spiritual hanger for their closet as a reminder of clothing themselves with daily habits of giving. They will also make reminder cards of their daily giving that will be mailed to them weekly.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> self-addressed envelopes from Warm-Up NIV Bible a wire hanger per student wrapping paper tape scissors spiritual gift stickers (see appendix) daily habit reminder cards (see appendix)

Small Group Warm-Up: 15 minutes



Purpose: *Get pointed in the right direction!* Build relationships and help guests feel at ease. Do the learning readiness activity that will point your group in the right direction for the lesson.

As kids gather: Listen to memory verses from last week. Give coupons for reciting memory verses, remembering to bring a Bible, and bringing a guest.

Supplies: Use a minimum of one stamped envelope up to a maximum of five stamped envelopes. Adjust this lesson according to how much your church is willing to spend on postage.

Pass the envelopes out to each child in your group. (Remember, the number of envelopes each child receives depends on how much your church has agreed to pay for postage.)

Have kids address the envelopes to themselves by writing their name and address in the appropriate place.

Note: It might be helpful to have every child number his/her envelopes in the bottom left corner. Then the Shepherd or supply coordinator can easily divide the envelopes into piles according to which week they will be mailed.

When kids are finished writing, have them think about events that will happen in their lives during the next few weeks. Then say:

You may have seen reminders sent in the mail to the your parents about paying bills, having the car serviced, or about scheduling a dentist appointment. If you were to receive a note in the mail this next week (or two, three, four or five weeks, depending on number of envelopes used) to remind you of something important coming up, or something to do, what would it be? Discuss.

Today you will mail yourself a reminder(s) about something really important that you need to practice or continue practicing during the week(s) you receive it.

If you practice something by doing it every day for a certain amount of time, it becomes a habit. As you know, there are good habits and there are bad habits. You also know that bad habits are hard to break. But, with that in mind, let me ask you this:

What do you think it takes to get into a regular routine or a good habit? (Taking time to practice, reminders to practice, encouragement from others, and seeing the positive outcomes.)

Today we'd like to think about how we can make a habit of giving to people every day. The Bible says we should **clothe ourselves with daily habits of giving.*

Large Group Overview: 20-30 minutes



Purpose: *Help kids observe what the Bible says. Present the Bible event in creative fashion. Help kids begin to interpret what it means.*

Introduction: General Osity is a storefront bell ringer for charity. He chooses a volunteer from the audience who trusts Jesus as his/her Lord and Savior. This special chosen volunteer becomes an actor identified as "Dearly Loved Person" and clothed with certain spiritual gifts.

Audience Participation Drama: Additional volunteers are chosen to act out scenes in which a person is spiritually challenged. The audience guesses what the actor is doing. Then, the Dearly Loved Person figures out a way to demonstrate a gift that the actor needs in order to show what it looks like to **clothe ourselves with daily habits of giving.*

Small Group Application: 20-25 minutes



Purpose: *Help kids map out the meaning of the Bible event in their lives. Use the questions to stimulate discussion, but don't feel tied to them. Allow the Holy Spirit to guide you. Include personal examples from your own faith journey. The example of Christ at work in your life will leave lasting impressions of how Christ can work in the children's lives.*

Use your Bibles! Children need to learn how to look up references and follow along when scripture is read aloud. Allow for quality time of prayer at the close of the lesson.

Observation Questions: What happened?

Today the presenter, General Osity, made a point that his first volunteer had to be someone very special. **What qualifications did this volunteer need?** *(Someone who trusts Jesus as his Savior, understands that Jesus gave his life on the cross so his/her sins would be forgiven, and that he lives in our hearts.)*

Why is this such an important part of the Bible event? *(This person has to understand how he is a "Dearly Loved Person.")*

Open the NIV Bible to Colossians 3:12 and have a student read it aloud.

“Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.”

When one is chosen by God, he/she must put on, or clothe him/herself with the gifts listed in this verse. These gifts allow us to ****Clothe ourselves with daily habits of giving.***

Interpretation Questions: What does this mean?

When the Dearly Loved Person gave away each clothing card as a gift of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, do you think he was really clothed with less? Why? *(Each day God gives us what we need. We can always ask for more.)*

Application Questions: What does this mean to me?

Supplies: Self addressed envelopes from Warm-Up, NIV Bible, wire hangers, wrapping paper, tape, scissors, spiritual gift stickers, and daily habit reminder cards (If you have access to a die cut machine, these stickers and cards can be substituted with clothing cut-outs – see appendix.)

Since everyone starts each day by heading into the closet and getting dressed, we are going to wrap a hanger for you to keep there. This should be hung in a place where you will see it as a daily reminder to put on the spiritual gifts of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. This will help you remember every day to ****clothe yourself with daily habits of giving.***

If time allows, discuss the following:

What would each scene look like if the Dearly Loved Person was not a dearly loved person? Imagine if he didn't know Jesus as his Lord and Savior, and approached the other actor clothed with no daily habits of giving? How might each scene have ended?

- 1. You are heartbroken that your cat ate your canary.**
- 2. You have a broken right arm in a cast and you're trying to write with your right hand but it is very painful. It takes too long to do the letters with the other hand.**
- 3. You celebrated the game-winning basket you made before the other team rebounded and actually won the game right at the buzzer.**
- 4. You're a three year old eating an ice cream cone that falls into the sand box. When restacking it, you can't get the sand off and cry.**
- 5. You're the new clerk at a fast food restaurant and you can't figure out the cash register while the order was wrong and getting cold.**

Show kids an example of a gift-wrapped hanger. Pass each student a hanger, wrapping paper and a set of spiritual gift stickers. Have them quickly wrap their hanger and affix the spiritual gift stickers. Then set it aside.



When they finish the hanger, hand out a card for each envelope the kids addressed earlier. This card has today's Bible verse printed on one side. On the other side, kids will write a reminder to themselves about practicing their daily habits of giving. Kids should consider a different spiritual gift and a different person to bless on each card. Have them put each card in a different envelope and seal it. Collect all the envelopes to mail to them in the upcoming weeks. Say:

When we receive the gift of Jesus as our Savior, we become his chosen people. We are challenged then, to each day, begin anew and **clothe ourselves with daily habits of giving.*

Prayer Time:

Thank God for the gift of his Son, Jesus, who forgives our sins, so each day we can be clothed anew. Thank him that he has called us to be his chosen people. Pray that God will help kids clothe themselves daily with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience as part of their daily habits. Ask that kids are able to see the good in putting on these spiritual gifts and practicing the habit of giving them away.

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Large Group Presentation

Give Gifts Daily – Make It a Habit Dramatic Presentation

Costume:

- *presenter is dressed as a storefront holiday bell ringer for charity*

Props:

- *pot with lid hanging from a pole to serve as a collection place for gifts*
- *six cards, each cut to look like a different piece of clothing—for example; shirt, pants, jacket, hat, socks and boxer shorts. Each card has on it a word from the scripture verse: compassion (sympathy), kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.*
- *heavy tape to stick cards on volunteer (roll a piece onto the back of each clothing card)*
- *clothing hanger, possibly giant sized so it's easy to see—attach the six clothing cards to the hanger (maybe with clothespins)*
- *nametag that reads, “Dearly Loved Person”*
- *printed scenario cards (see appendix)*
- *kitchen timer, or stop watch with bell, to signal 30 second intervals*

Introduction:

Welcome, everyone! My name is General Osity! I'm standing here ringing my bell for charity and I want to invite you to give, give, give. Give until it helps someone. You might have seen some of my other helpers at different stores reminding you that it is more blessed to give than to receive.

Today I don't want you to raise your hand and volunteer to help me until you hear exactly what kind of special volunteer I need. I want someone from the audience who trusts Jesus as his/her Savior and who knows that Jesus gave his life on the cross for him/her. This volunteer understands that Jesus has taken away his/her sins and now lives in his/her heart.

Select a volunteer and say to him/her:

To give you a reference for today's Take Home Point of how to: **clothe yourself with daily habits of giving*, I'd like you to read this verse from the Bible.

Have him/her read Colossians 3:12 (NIV):

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

Take the Bible back and hold up the hanger with six clothing cards.



I have six articles of clothing here to put on our volunteer.

The first part of the verse you just read says, ***“You are God’s chosen person (gesture to volunteer,) holy and dearly loved...”***

Since you volunteered to help me when I asked for someone who trusts Jesus as his/her Savior and who knows that Jesus gave his life on the cross for him/her, I will officially call you a “Dearly Loved Person,” instead of your real name.

Hang or stick the “Dearly Loved Person” nametag on the volunteer.

I’m going to call you this because God has dearly loved you and given you Jesus. So now you have these clothes to put on.

Hold up the hanger with clothing cards again.

But what else does the verse from Colossians say about you? As God’s chosen person, you are holy and dearly loved! What does that mean?

Holy means that you are set apart as special and dearly loved by God. Because of this, you can clothe yourself with: (hold up clothing cards one at a time) compassion (or sympathy), kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. These are gifts that you can give to others.

In order to give these gifts away, I will clothe you with each of these gifts right from the hanger, one at a time before someone acts out a scene. Your job is to carefully watch what the actor is doing, listen to audience guesses, and figure out how you can act in a way that gives the person the gift you're actually wearing in order to practice what it means to **clothe yourself with daily habits of giving.*

Explain pantomime:

I'm going to need more volunteers who are willing to act out certain roles without using words—like you would in a pantomime or game of Charades.

Select five volunteers and invite them to the stage. Give each a scenario card.

These volunteers will have only 30 seconds to act out their role. People in the audience can guess what they are doing and say out loud what they think is going on in the scene.

Then our “Dearly Loved Person” (gesture toward this volunteer), clothed with certain daily habits, will use the habit I clothe him/her with, to help our actor.

If the audience can't guess what the actor is doing, then General Osity explains it to the audience or secretly to the actor. He may give the actor another chance to act it out again, or General Osity can act it out, and place the clothing card on the actor.

Use the timer or stopwatch and bell to signal when the pantomime is over. Have the audience help guess what the scenario is and help the “Dearly Loved Person” decide what is needed to help that person. Describe the article of clothing as you stick it onto the Dearly Loved Person. The Dearly Loved Person can explain how he would help the actor in need with the appropriate card.

Teaching point:

After all scenarios have been portrayed and the appropriate card selected, have the volunteers return to their seats. Review the teaching point.

Every day you get dressed, right? It's a daily habit. The same thing can happen spiritually. God has chosen you to be one of his holy and dearly loved children. Therefore, you can put on spiritual clothes every day. Then it becomes a habit. You can develop the habits of giving compassion, giving kindness, giving humility, giving gentleness, and giving patience. **Clothe yourself with daily habits of giving.*

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, thank you for choosing us to be holy and special loved people. Thank you for the gift of Jesus. Thank you that Jesus gave his life for us so that we could be holy and specially loved in your sight. Now help us give gifts to others daily. Not things we buy but help us give of ourselves with compassion, kindness humility, gentleness and patience. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Nametag for person:

**Dearlly
Loved
Person**

**Appendix A
Scenario Cards**

#1 Compassion (Sympathy)

You are petting your cat when you notice there are some feathers in her mouth. Then you realize that your canary is missing. Suddenly, you are heartbroken that your cat has eaten your canary.

The “Dearly Loved Person” will join you after you have acted out your part. This volunteer will then act out a way to give you the gift of compassion and clothe you with it by sticking that clothing card to you.

#2 Kindness

You have a broken right arm in a cast and you’re trying to write with your right hand but it is very painful. So you try to write with your left hand but can’t form your letters very well. You talk out loud about your frustration.

The “Dearly Loved Person” will join you after you have acted out your part. This volunteer will then act out a way to give you the gift of kindness and clothe you with it by sticking that clothing card to you.

#3 Humility

You are a basketball player dribbling the ball down the court toward your team’s basket. With seven seconds left, you shoot the ball and make the team-winning point. You jump up and down because you’re so excited. But then, you look at the other end of the court and see that the opposing team made a basket with one second left, beating the buzzer and winning the game.

The “Dearly Loved Person” will join you after you have acted out your part. This volunteer will then act out a way to give you the gift of humility and clothe you with it by sticking that clothing card to you.

#4 Gentleness

Imagine that you are a three year old eating an ice cream cone in the sand box. Unfortunately, you drop the ice cream in the sand. Nobody is close enough to help; so you pick the cone up, restack the scoops on it and try to brush the sand off. When this doesn't work, you cry.

The "Dearly Loved Person" will join you after you have acted out your part. This volunteer will then act out a way to give you the gift of gentleness and clothe you with it by sticking that clothing card to you.

#5 Patience

You're the new clerk at a fast food restaurant. The order has been filled, set on a tray next to you, and you're trying to get the register drawer open to give the hungry customer change. While trying to figure out the register, the customer notices that the order is wrong.

The "Dearly Loved Person" will join you after you have acted out your part. This volunteer will then act out a way to give you the gift of patience and clothe you with it by sticking that clothing card to you.

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

Colossians 3:12 (NIV)

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

Colossians 3:12 (NIV)

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

Colossians 3:12 (NIV)

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

Colossians 3:12 (NIV)

Appendix B – Daily Habit Reminder Cards (Side 2)

Today I will remember to clothe myself with daily habits of giving to:

Name of person: _____

By giving them: _____

Today I will remember to clothe myself with daily habits of giving to:

Name of person: _____

By giving them: _____

Today I will remember to clothe myself with daily habits of giving to:

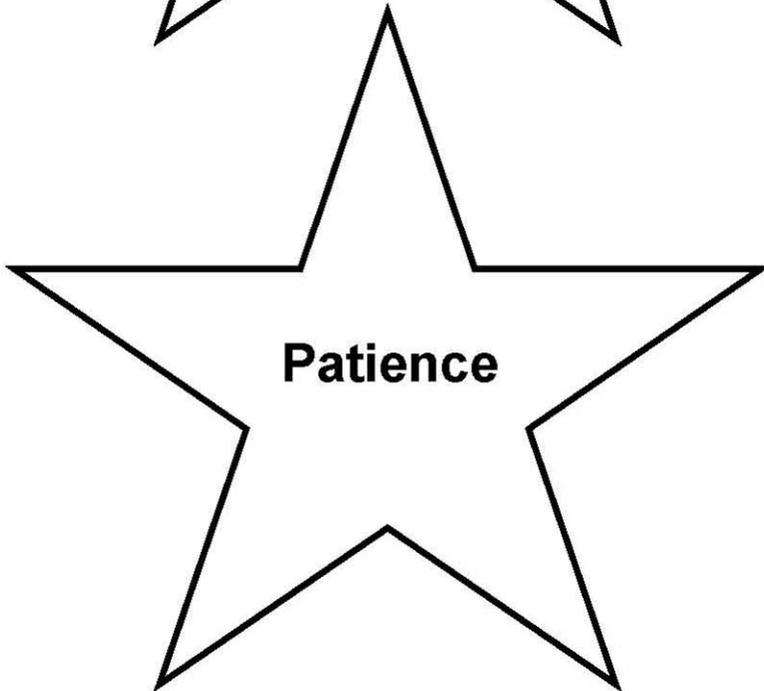
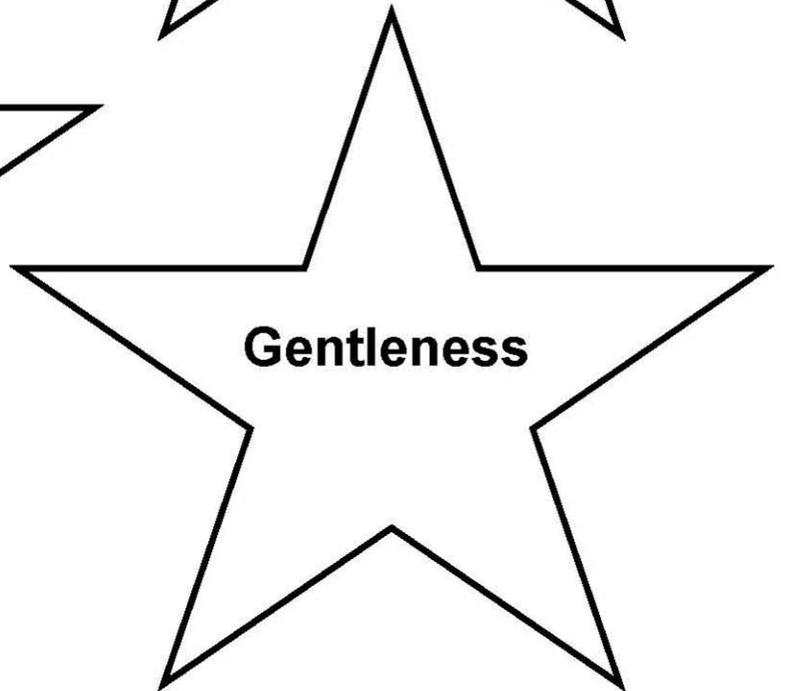
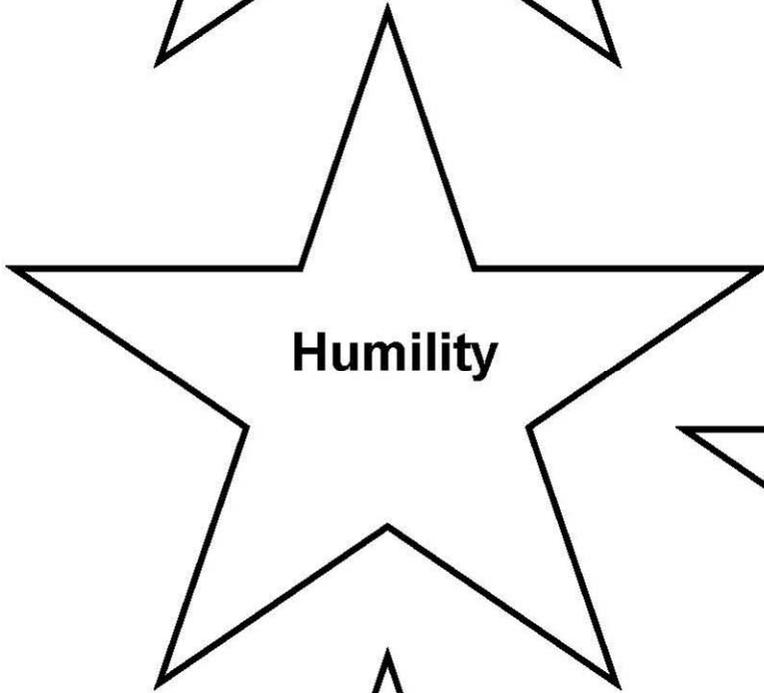
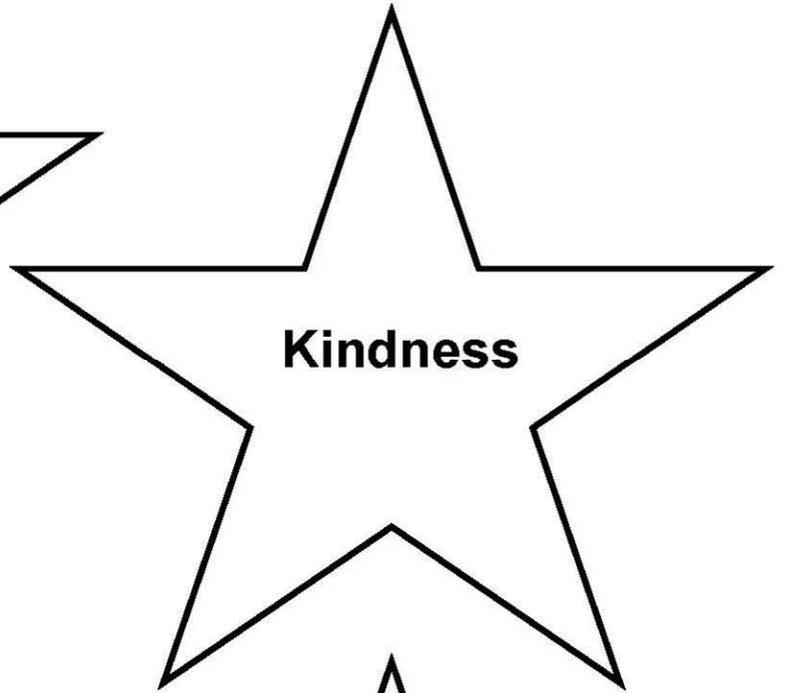
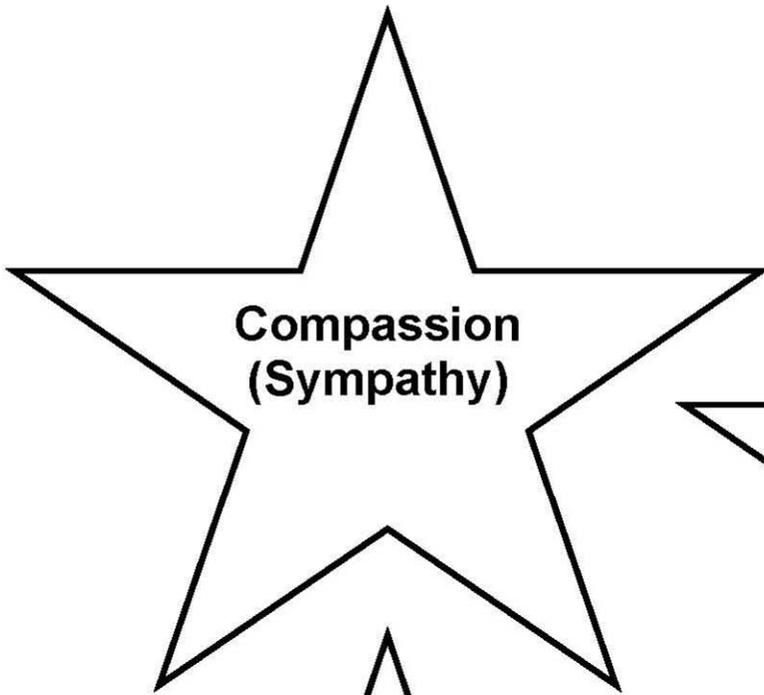
Name of person: _____

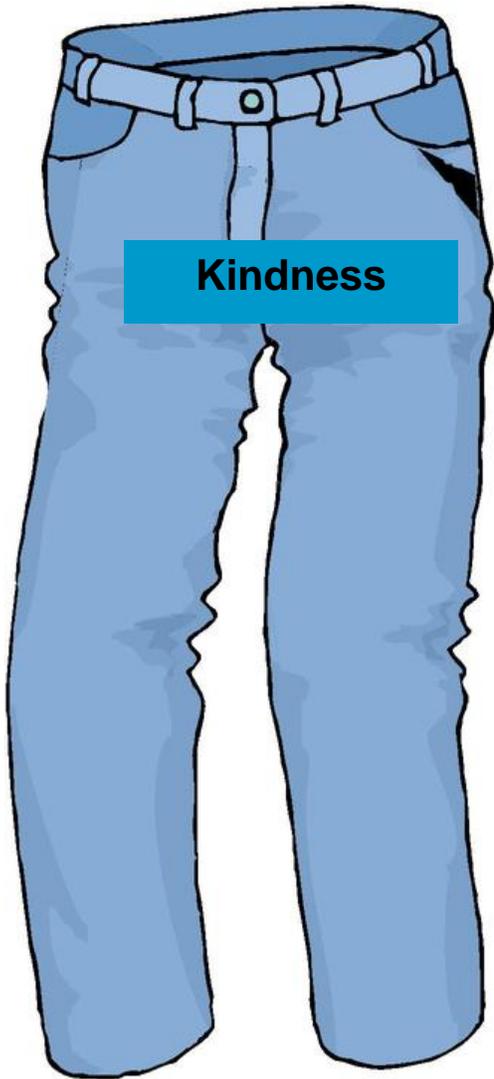
By giving them: _____

Today I will remember to clothe myself with daily habits of giving to:

Name of person: _____

By giving them: _____





Kindness



Gentleness



Patience



Humility



Compassion