

BLESS

 HILL COUNTRY
CHILDREN

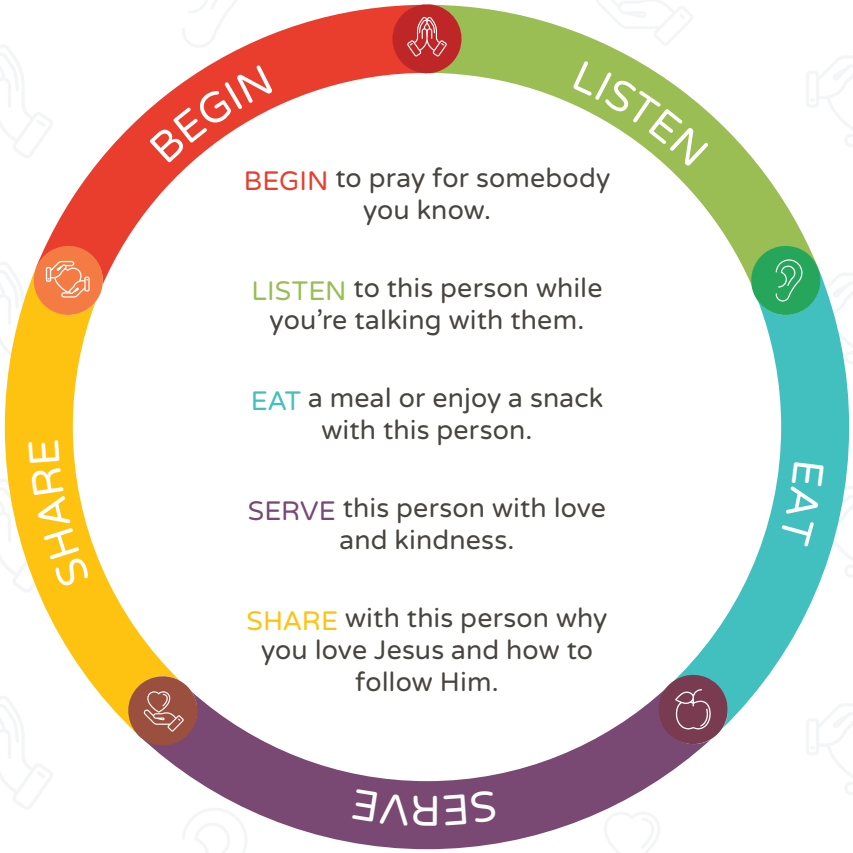




BLESS

Have you ever thought about what it means to bless another person? When we bless somebody, we show them the love of Jesus. That means that we show them great love, care, and kindness. And the reason we know how to bless others is because we have the perfect teacher—God.

That's right. God blesses us, and He is our example of how to bless others. By blessing others, we're also showing that we love God and that we're thankful for how much He loves us!



BEGIN



BEGIN to pray for somebody you know.

LISTEN



LISTEN to this person while you're talking with them.

SHARE



EAT a meal or enjoy a snack with this person.

EAT

SERVE this person with love and kindness.

SERVE



SHARE with this person why you love Jesus and how to follow Him.





BEGIN TO PRAY FOR SOMEBODY YOU KNOW.

First, think about all the people that you know. WOW!
That's a lot of people, right?

Now, think about one person who could possibly use a
special prayer. Finally, start to pray, which means to talk
to God about this person.

I'm going to pray for this person. Write their name
here.

Write down your prayer to God for this person.

Dear God,





LISTEN TO THIS PERSON WHILE YOU'RE TALKING WITH THEM.

One of the best ways to get to know the person you're praying for is to really listen when you're talking with them. Sometimes we can want to talk a lot—and that's not necessarily a bad thing because there's a time and place for that.

But in this **BLESS** exercise, it's important to listen to the person you're praying for so that you can get to know them better.

Write down some things that you could learn about the person you're praying for by really listening. Some ideas are to find out what makes them feel happy or what they like to do for fun.





EAT A MEAL OR ENJOY A SNACK WITH THIS PERSON.

Eating a meal or enjoying a snack with the person you're praying for is a fun and special way to spend time together. While you eat, you can talk and get to know each other even better.

Write down a time and place when you can eat a meal or enjoy a snack with the person you're praying for. Also, think about ideas of what you can eat. Be sure to write down when you will ask this person to join you for a meal or snack.

I'd like to share a meal or snack with _____
on this day and time (write down a few different days
and times if you want).

Write down some ideas for your meal or snack.

Now, I need to make a plan. So, on the day below, I'll
ask _____ to join me for a meal or snack.





SERVE THIS PERSON WITH LOVE AND KINDNESS.

Think about a way that you can serve this person with love and kindness. Serving means to do something for another person without expecting anything in return. When we serve another person, we show them the same love and kindness that God shows us. This makes the person we're serving feel happy AND it makes us feel good too.

Write down ways that you can serve the person you're praying for. A few ideas are to write them an encouraging note about why you like them, help them clean their room, or bake them cookies.

Great! Now, write down the day you plan to serve this person.





SHARE WITH THIS PERSON WHY YOU LOVE JESUS AND HOW TO FOLLOW HIM.

When something makes you happy, you want to share it with others, right? So, sharing why Jesus makes you happy and why you love Him is a fun next step.

Write down all the reasons you love Jesus. Some ideas are that He died on the cross for you, He loves you and cares about all of your needs, and you are perfect in His eyes.

Terrific! Now, write down the day you plan to share with this person why you love Jesus.



HERE'S A WAY TO TALK ABOUT HOW TO FOLLOW JESUS

1

We all sin. Sin is anything that we think, say, or do that makes God unhappy. And because God is perfect and we have sinned, we are separated from God.

2

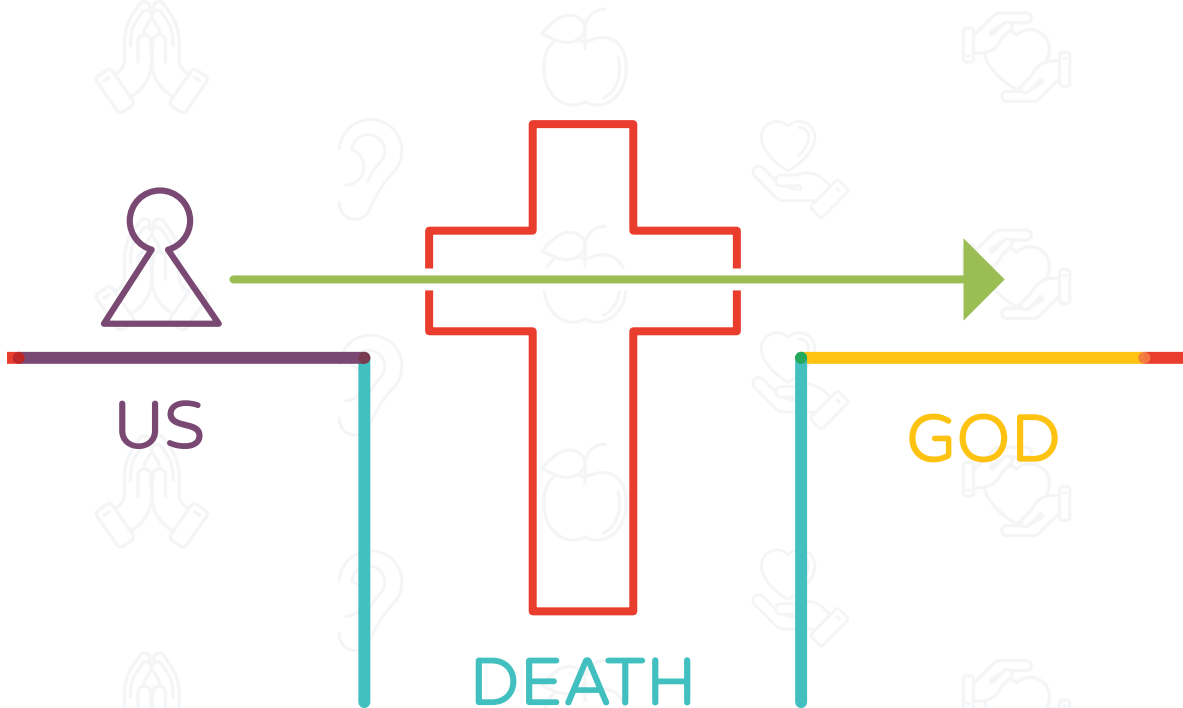
The Bible, God's true words to us, tells us that sin must be punished. That punishment is death, which is eternal or forever separation from God. Even when we do good things, like be nice to people or tell the truth, we are not good enough on our own to get back to God.

3

But God loved us so much that he sent His only son, Jesus, to take our punishment. Jesus died for us on the cross. And He rose from the dead three days later, which showed that He really is God!

4

God offers this free gift for everyone to come back to Him through Jesus. We don't have to be good enough or work hard enough to come back to God. Jesus did that for us. All we have to do is follow Jesus.



5

So how do we come back to God and follow Jesus?

ADMIT that you are a sinner and you have done things that make God unhappy and you are sorry.

BELIEVE that Jesus came to earth, died for our sins, and rose from the dead.

CHOOSE to follow Jesus as the leader of your life.

IT'S SO EXCITING TO TALK ABOUT HOW TO FOLLOW JESUS!

Write down why you think it's important to share with others how to follow Him.



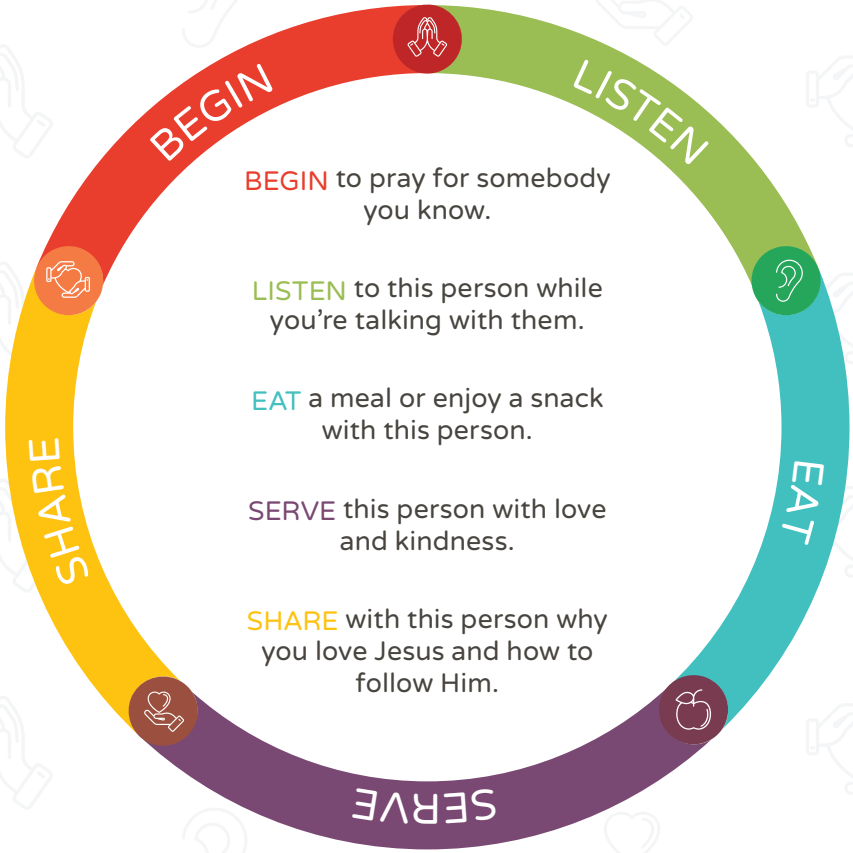


YAY!

We're so proud that you completed the **BLESS** exercise.

Let's take a look at the five steps again.

B **L** **E** **S** **S**



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SERVE



Now, take some time to think about what you did for each step, how you think the person you did these different things for felt, and how it made you feel.

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SHARE with this person why you love Jesus and how to follow Him.

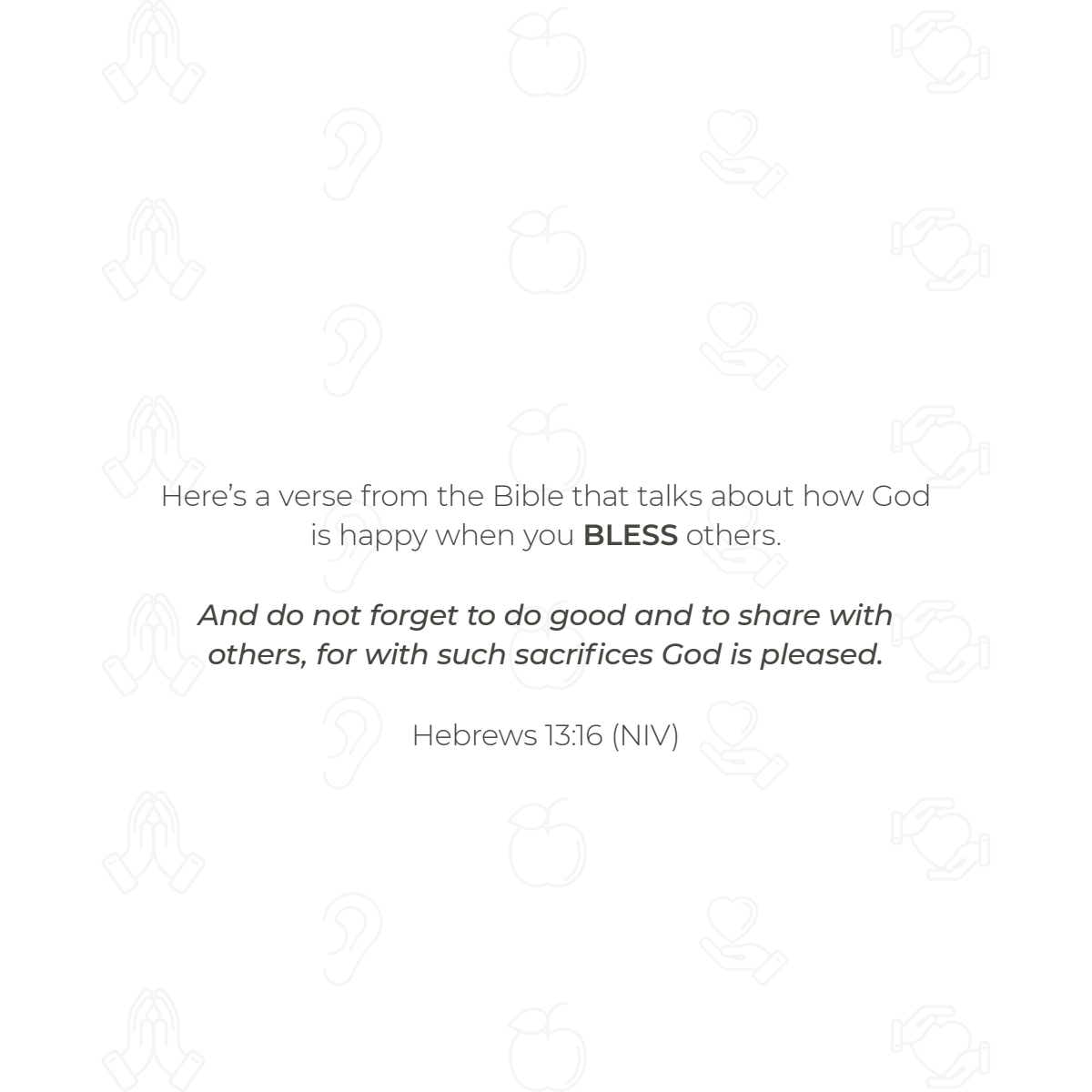
We hope you had a great time being a blessing! And you might have even noticed that you felt blessed and happy too.



BLESS

God shows us how to bless others by the way He blesses us. Now, you have an easy and fun way to continue to bless those people in your life that God puts on your heart and mind.

So, we encourage you to always be thinking about how you can be kind and loving just like God!



Here's a verse from the Bible that talks about how God is happy when you **BLESS** others.

And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

Hebrews 13:16 (NIV)



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