

## Children's Sermon

God-Lived Life #3

Matthew 9:9-13



Big Idea: Bullying (*Have picture of kids picking on a kid*)

I have a picture here I want to show you. What do you think is going on here? You know what this is called? Bullying. Have you ever heard of that? It's when people pick on other people because they are different. Sometimes they do it with their words, calling them names. Sometimes they do it with their strength, beating them up or picking on them. Sometimes they even do it on the internet, saying things about people. Is that a good thing to do?

No way. But—anytime we think that we are better than others because we are different, we're kind of doing that. If you look down on someone because their skin is a different color or if they don't have as much money as you or because they have a whole bunch of money, or maybe it's because they like a different sports team or they don't get as good of grades as you. There are a lot of ways the devil tempts us to look down on others.

Today Jesus teaches us not to look down on someone who is different, but to love them, to make an effort to get to know them better, so that they can get to know you and your Savior. You see, he makes us all better than we ever could be. He made us perfect because he died to take away our sins—even when there wasn't anything in us to like.

Let's pray, thanking Jesus for that—and ask him to help us love others like that too.

Dear Jesus, thank you for showing us love when we were sinners. Help us to show that same love to everyone. Help everyone who is being bullied to know that you love them and help everyone who is being a bully to follow your example and love instead. In your name we pray, Amen.