

## PROBLEM SOLVED

by Patricia A. Pierce

Anthony couldn't wait to tell his friends his good news. He was about to burst with excitement. He had done it! He'd finally saved enough money to buy a new baseball mitt. Baseball league registration was next week. Anthony and his friends were ready to play.

Anthony's friends were happy to hear his good news. "I'm buying my new mitt this Saturday!" Anthony said. He grabbed his brother's hand-me-down mitt out of his backpack.

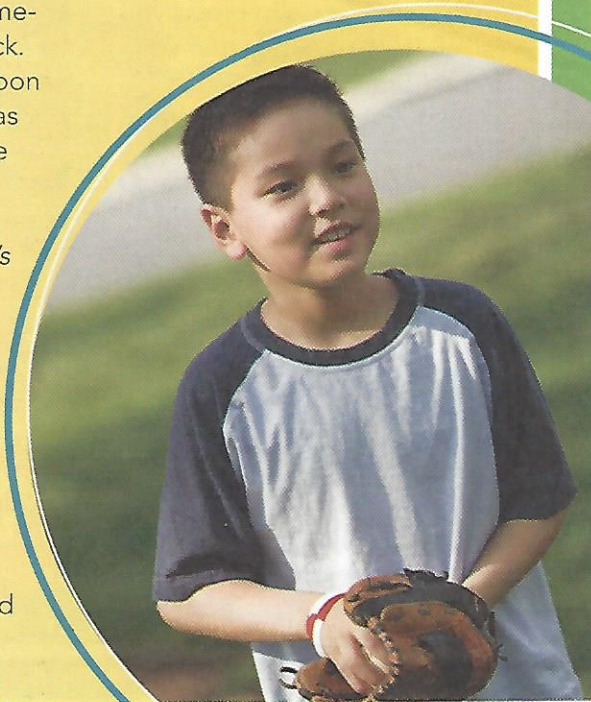
The boys spent the afternoon playing baseball. Anthony was waiting for his turn to bat. He noticed Jordan was missing. "Where's Jordan?" asked Anthony. No one knew. *That's not like Jordan*, thought Anthony.

Anthony was having a great time but couldn't stop thinking about Jordan. "Did you notice how quiet Jordan was at lunch today when we were talking about playing baseball?" Anthony asked his friends. Again, no one had noticed.

Just then, Anthony saw Jordan sitting by a tree across from the ball field. Jordan didn't see Anthony coming until Anthony spoke. "Why aren't you playing with us?" Anthony asked.

"I have a problem to solve," said Jordan. "I don't feel like playing today, because I won't be playing this season."

"Oh no!" said Anthony. "Why not?"





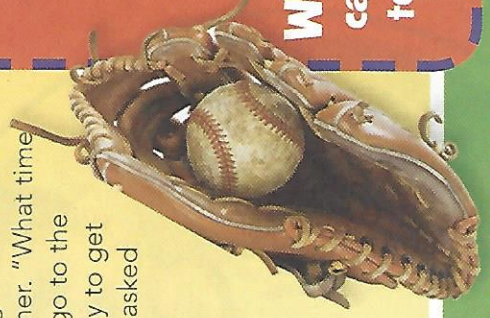


"The transmission went out in Dad's truck. It cost a lot to fix," said Jordan. "Dad said he was sorry, but we can't afford the registration fee."

Anthony didn't know what to say at first. Then he said, "We can ask Jesus for help." He sat and prayed with Jordan. Then it was time to head home for dinner.

As Anthony ate dinner with his family, he told them about Jordan's situation. Dad said, "Sounds to me as though your other friends have been ignoring Jordan's problem. I'm proud you noticed. Is there a way that you can help Jordan?"

Anthony thought about that while eating dinner. "What time do you want to go to the store on Saturday to get your new mitt?" asked Anthony's mom.



"You can cancel our shopping trip, Mom," said Anthony. "I've decided to spend my money on something else. I'd rather help Jordan pay the registration fee than have a new mitt."

"I think that's a great idea!" said Mom.

"Looks like Jesus is using you to help Anthony," said Dad.

"Yeah," answered Anthony. "Problem solved!"

**What problems did Anthony and Jordan have?**

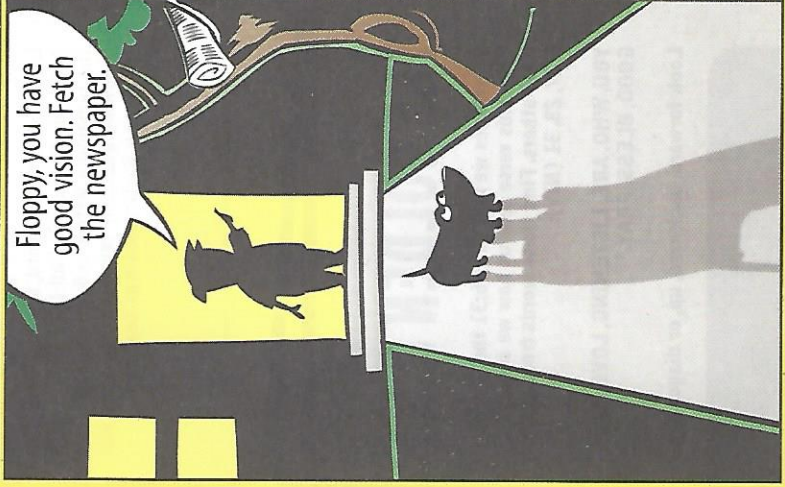


**What problems can you ask Jesus to help you with?**



# TOON TIME

BY JENNA LUSBY AND KAREN GAIN  
ILLUSTRATED BY SCOTT ANGLE





# just for fun

R O H C I R E J  
 Y A T E I U Q K  
 H T B L I N D A  
 I S I B F E W O  
 A I T C I E O L  
 J E S U S S R C  
 H N A M E R C Y

Find words from Mark 10:46-52 (NIV) that are hidden in this puzzle.

RABBI, JESUS, MAN, CITY, MERCY, SEE, BLIND, CROWD, JERICHO, CLOAK, QUIET

Look forward, backward, up, or diagonally. After you have circled all the hidden words, the remaining letters will answer the following question: What did Jesus say was the reason Bartimaeus was healed?

## Bartimaeus Receives His Sight



D L D D O R G O S  
 I U O H W E A A S  
 Y O U V P R A Y E  
 G N I N E T S I L  
 S G O R U Y D O B

## THE GOLDEN RULE

Sometimes we call Luke 6:31 the Golden Rule. This verse tells us how we should treat others. Find these words from Luke 6:27, 28, 31 (NIV):

YOU, WHO, ARE, LISTENING, LOVE, DO, GOOD, BLESS, PRAY.

Look forward, backward, up, or diagonally.

THE GOLDEN RULE

BARTIMAEUS RECEIVES HIS SIGHT