

# Good Deeds for the Day

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Sarah listened as Mom talked on the phone. She was telling Dad how Sister Evans' car had a flat tire, so Mom had given her, her baby, and her groceries a ride home. Sarah heard Mom say, "I did my good deed for the day."

Sarah was puzzled. She wandered into the family room where her big brother, Christopher, was busy folding the laundry. "What's a good deed?" she asked.

"A good deed is something helpful that you do for someone," Christopher explained. "For example, if you helped me put away these clothes, you would be doing a good deed."

"OK, I'll help," Sarah said. She scooped up a stack of towels and hurried to the bathroom to put them away. Before long, the job was done.

"Thank you, Sarah," Christopher said.

Sarah smiled. "You're welcome," she said. "I guess I did my good deed for the day." She went to tell Mom what she had done. On the way, she saw her baby brother, Adam. He was standing in front of Dad's big easy chair, looking very unhappy. His ball was on the chair, just out of his reach.

"Oh, Adam," Sarah exclaimed, "I'll help you!" She ran to the chair, grabbed the ball, and handed it to Adam. He smiled, threw the ball, and toddled off after it.

"Now I've done two good deeds," Sarah said to herself as she continued to search for Mom. She found her in the kitchen, fixing dinner. "May I set the table?" Sarah asked.

"Of course you may," Mom answered. "I'm always happy to have you as my helper."

"I'm doing good deeds today," Sarah announced as she set the table. "I helped Christopher, then I helped Adam, and now I'm helping you." She paused, then asked, "What's a good deed that I can do for Dad?"

"When he gets home from work, you can give him a hug and tell him that you love him," Mom suggested.

Sarah laughed. "I always do that," she said. "That's not a good deed."

"It *is* a good deed," Mom said. "Your dad looks forward to your hug and 'I love you' all day long."

Just then they heard Dad opening the garage door. "Here I go!" Sarah said. She ran to Dad and jumped into his arms. "I love you, Dad!" she declared, giving him a great big hug.

"And I love you, Sarah," he said, carrying her into the kitchen. "Tell me what you did today."

Sarah beamed. "I did lots of good deeds."

"Good for you!" Dad set Sarah down and gave Mom a kiss. "I called Sister Evans and told her that I would change her tire right after dinner."

"That will be your good deed for the day, Dad!" Sarah declared. "It's a good thing Sister Evans had a flat tire today or we wouldn't have been able to do so many good deeds!"