

Charley Learns to Share

Charley was always a happy boy. But now he was especially happy because his family had a new pet, a baby kitten. The kitten really belonged to Susie, Charlie's sister, but all the family loved it and enjoyed it.

One day, Charley and the kitten were playing in the yard when Susie came up and wanted to play, too. Charley said that she couldn't play with the kitten because he was playing with it. When Susie tried to pick up the kitten, Charley grabbed it and ran away.

He was running as fast as he could go when he stubbed his toe on the edge of the garden walk, and he fell with the kitten under him. When he picked himself up, he looked down at the kitten. She was lying very still and not moving. It looked like she was badly hurt.

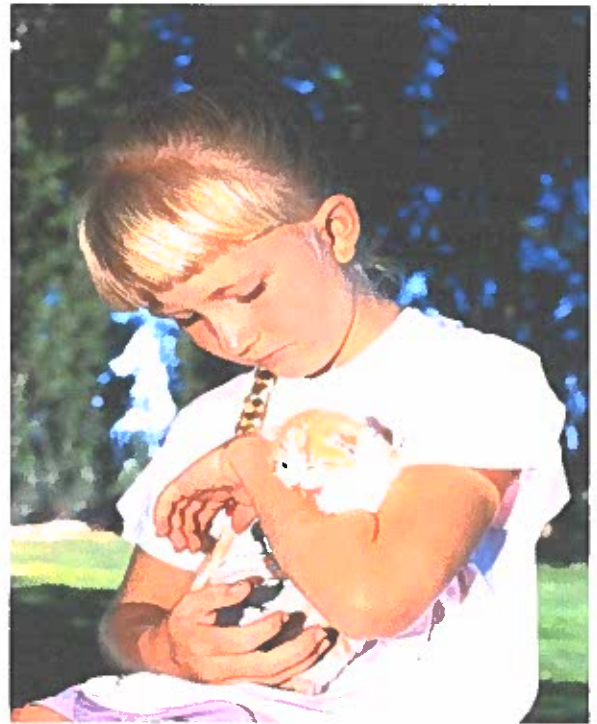
Charley began to scream, and his mother and Susie came quickly. He was crying as they came up to him. Mother stooped down and gently picked up the kitten. It was still not moving. She carefully handed it to Susie and asked her to take it to her room and lay it in a comfortable spot.

Mother put her arm around Charley and they walked over to the porch steps and sat down. Charley was still crying when his mother gently began talking to him. He heard his mother saying to him, "Charley, to run away with the kitten is not showing love for the kitten or your sister, is it?" Charley shook his head no, and stopped crying as he listened to his mother. "It was the error of selfishness that made you think you wanted to run away. But that wasn't your true self, your loving self, was it Charley?" Charley again shook his head no.

Charley had been learning in Sunday School that God is Love. His mother said that to play happily with Susie was reflecting Love from God. To not play happily together was not reflecting Love.

Just then, Charlie's dad got home from work and came out on the porch where they were sitting. Mother told him the story about the kitten. Dad listened and then he said to Charley, "We know that Love takes care of all of its ideas so it is caring for the kitten right now. All of us need to love the kitten and see it in God's care." Charley said he would do that, and he walked away singing happily to himself.

A little later, Susie's bedroom door opened and out ran the little kitten, chasing its little red ball. The family was so happy to see the kitten playing. Charley was happy that God's Love had been right there taking care of it. He also knew that now he could be a better reflection of God's Love when he played with his sister and the kitten.



Luke 6:38 "Give, and it shall be given unto you,"