



'Have you seen Elvis' by Andrew Murray, is a book about a dog called Buddy, a cat called Elvis and their owner called Lucy. Buddy and Elvis are always fighting, it makes Lucy sad. One day Elvis had had enough so he decided to leave and never come back. Poor Lucy is so sad and Buddy feels guilty that he made Elvis leave. So, Buddy decided to go and find Elvis, however it is not easy but he finds help in the least expected place.

Biblical Reference:

Luke 10:27

'Love your neighbour as you love yourself.'

Next month's book is:

'What the Ladybird heard' by Julia Donaldson

Inspiration ...

If you do not have this book, you could borrow it from the library or watch a re-telling of the story on YouTube.

<https://youtu.be/sAzeuAzwulo>

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Theme: The Good Samaritan

Love everyone including yourself

Theme exploration:

When Buddy goes to search for Elvis and finds himself in danger it is the least likely animal that helped him out. This is like the story Jesus told about the Good Samaritan: in the story a man was helped, not by a 'good person' or a 'religious person' but by a man who he thought was 'different' to him.

Jesus uses this story to tell us that we should love and help everyone that we can. Everyone deserves to be treated kindly and to be looked after, even if they are someone who does not have the same interests and views as us e.g. someone who supports a different football team.

In order to love others we need to love ourselves, because you are loved by your creator – God.

Things for you to try this month:

- Read the Bible story of 'The Good Samaritan' or watch it here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=osfQg4yKtq8>
- Draw a funny picture and put it through a neighbour's letter box to make them smile.
- Add a note to your bedroom door that you are loved by God.
- Make a list of how you can show love to others – especially those who are 'different' to you.



We believe in the power of prayer

A prayer for you to pray for your family:

Dear God, we know that it not always easy to show real love. Help us to be willing to "get our hands dirty" by loving others even when it's hard to do.

In Jesus' name. Amen.

A prayer we pray for you as parents:

Jesus, we thank You for the example set for us in the story of the Good Samaritan. We pray protection for these parents as they show their children how to love others.

Amen.