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Girls' Hostel Compound, Ranipet

Questions

Can you see what is happening in the pictures on the board?

Do you recognize which Bible story they are telling? (Read Matthew chapter 25 verses 31-46 and see if you can identify what the paintings show.)

Why do you think people are being reminded of this story? What does it say about how they should treat other people?

Have you noticed that the people in the pictures are Indians? Jesus told the story to Jews. Why do you think that people make the story be about people like themselves?

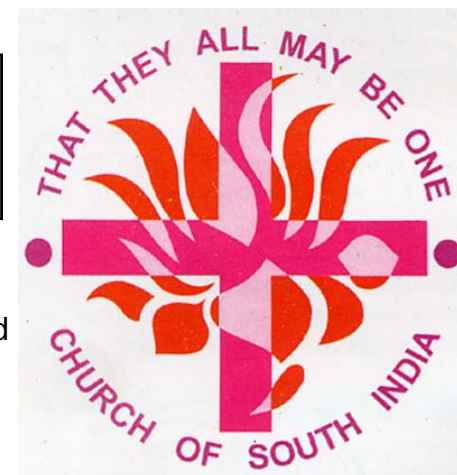
Does Jesus look Indian in this picture? You could compare it with pictures 6 and 7.

Background

This painted board is in the courtyard of a Girls' Hostel in Ranipet. The hostel is attached to a secondary school and girls whose home villages are a long distance away from the school board here in term time. This is a church school and there are many other Christian verses and messages painted on the walls of the hostel building.

The words on the board are in Tamil. The words in the centre are Matthew chapter 25 verse 40: "Truly, I say to you as you did it to one of these, the least of my bretheren, you did it to me." . The Church of South India takes these words very seriously and has many projects to help poor people, including in all the different ways shown here.

Compare all the pictures of Jesus in this pack and you will see he is usually shown with a white skin and looks quite European. In India higher caste Hindus usually have fairer skin than lower caste people, so fair skin is seen as important. Jesus is therefore usually shown with fair skin.



பரியாபிடுந்தேன்



காவலிலிருந்தேன்



உறவளித்தீர்கள்
தாகமாயிடுந்தேன்

பார்க்க வந்தீர்கள்
வியாதியாயிடுந்தேன்



மிகவும் சீநியவராகிய என் சகோதரரான
இவர்களில் ஒருவனுக்கு நீங்கள் எவதச்
செய்தீர்களோ, அஃது எனக்கே செய்தீர்கள்
மத்தேய: 25.40.



அந்நியனாயிடுந்தேன்

வஸ்திரமல்லா திருந்தேன்

தாகம் தீர்த்தீர்கள்



சொரத்துக் கொண்டீர்கள்

வஸ்திரம் கொடுத்தீர்கள்

விசாரிக்க வந்தீர்கள்

Small text on a sign to the right of the billboard, partially obscured by a building.

சிறை
உண்மை