

Explore It

FOR LEADERS

SESSION
12

A LOVE FOR ALL

 Luke 10:25-37 The Good Samaritan

Please refer to the Introduction document for more details

Ask the children to bring a pen and some paper to this session.

Start It

Before the session, gather together the following items. Or, if you can't source the items, create a collage picture using images from the internet.

- A plaster or bandage or first-aid kit
- A donkey/horse
- Some oil
- A key
- Some coins
- Three people
- Some sand or rocks
- A balaclava or other face covering
- Some walking shoes
- A bottle of water

Show the group the items/picture for around 30 seconds. Then take the items/picture away and give the children a set amount of time to write down as many of the objects that they remember as they can. Afterwards ask the children if they can think of a Bible story that includes all these items.


Alternative activity 1: If you have a really adventurous group you could adapt this as a scavenger hunt!

Alternative activity 2: Show the children this Good Samaritan 'spot the difference' puzzle, via screen share, that you can download here: <https://sundayschoolzone.com/activity/the-good-samaritan-spot-the-differences/view>

(images also attached at the end).

Give the group some time to spot all the differences, and then ask them if they know what Bible story this picture is from.

Memory verse. Ask who can remember the memory verse from the last session and have one or two people recite it.

 **Say:** We are going to continue with the theme of love. Do you remember that so far we have learnt how much God loves us, and how he wants us to love each other? Today we are going to think about how we can love everyone, even people we may not like very much, and especially how we can love people who are in need. Our story today is about someone who lends a helping hand to someone who is in trouble. The story is about a man who is robbed and left hurt on the side of the road. Both a priest and a Levite (a person who works in the Temple) pass by the man, leaving him suffering and without help. A Samaritan (a person from Samaria) then comes along and he stops to help the man. Jesus tells this story to ask us to show love to those around us - to help people in need.

Sing It

Play the video and ask your group to dance along!

'Called to Love' - dance video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l6o85IQUBbE>

Tell It

Read Luke 10:25-37, the parable of The Good Samaritan.

There are lots of animated versions of this story on YouTube. Pick one suitable for the age of your group to illustrate the story. Here are a couple of examples:

The Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37) - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=osfQg4yKtq8>

God's Story: The Good Samaritan - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MLzdQtetedc>

Share on your screen a Good Samaritan wordsearch. (There are plenty available online, or there is one included below.) Show the children how to use the 'annotate' function and allow each child in turn to point out a word that they find on the wordsearch. You can play this particular wordsearch online, but please be aware that it will only be available for a limited time.

<https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/3242/the-parable-of-the-good-samaritan>

As you find each word you can emphasise and discuss different points of the story, as follows: *(Some of the following text is sourced from: http://www.dltk-bible.com/cv/good_samaritan.htm)*

Parable: A parable is a story that has a meaning. Jesus uses lots of parables to teach the people new things.

Jerusalem: The man was travelling from Jerusalem to _____? Ask the children if they remember where he was travelling to.

Jericho: The town where the man was travelling to. The road from Jerusalem to Jericho was about 15 miles long and went through the mountains.

Robbery: The man was attacked by robbers. Can you remember what they stole from him? Probably everything - they even stripped him of his clothes! They beat him up really badly and left him half dead by the side of the road.

Half dead: This is how the robbers left the man. He was just lying by the side of the road. He was too injured to get up and continue his journey or to find help.

Priest: After the attack a priest walked along the same road. You'd have thought he would stop to help. Can you remember what he did instead? When he saw the man lying there he crossed over to the other side of the road and carried on walking. He didn't stop to help.

Levite: A little while after the priest, another man, a Levite, was walking down the road. Levites were people who assisted priests with their work. Surely he would help the man. But you know what he did? He slowed down and walked a little closer to the man, but then kept walking without helping him at all.

You might be thinking that maybe the man lying by the side of the road looked like he was resting or sleeping and that is why the priest and the Levite didn't stop to help. But it was easy to tell he was badly hurt. The man was bleeding, had his clothes ripped off him, and he was bruised and hardly breathing.

Samaritan: Just a few minutes later, another man came walking. He was a Samaritan. One thing you should know about Samaritans is that Jews didn't like them. Jews usually didn't treat Samaritans very well, so they never got along. The man who was dying on the road was a Jew. So, what do you think the Samaritan did? You would think he would walk by and maybe even laugh at the injured man. But as soon as the Samaritan saw him, he went over and felt compassion for him.

Wound: The man had lots of wounds from the attack, but the Samaritan cleaned and bandaged them to make him more comfortable.

Oil and wine: The Samaritan poured oil and wine (which were quite expensive) on the man's wounds to prevent them from getting worse. Then he lifted the man on his own donkey and took him to a hotel to take care of him.

Innkeeper: This is the man who ran the hotel and agreed to look after the injured man.

Silver: The Samaritan paid the innkeeper whatever he needed to take good care of the man and make sure he got better.

Neighbour: After Jesus finished the story, he asked, 'Which of the three men do you think was a neighbour to the man who was left beaten on the side of the road?' The man who had asked Jesus the question at the beginning replied, 'The one who loved him and helped him.' Jesus told him, 'Go and do the same.'

Ask: Who is our neighbour?

Allow time for response and discussion.

🗨 **Say:** Our neighbour is anyone in need of love and who needs help. This story teaches us that our neighbour is not simply the nice person that lives next door or across the street or the one you call a friend. He or she is not just someone of the same race, nationality or religion. Our neighbour is anyone we come into contact with. Jesus tells us not only to love our neighbours, but also to love even those we don't know. The story teaches us to show kindness, even when it's not the popular thing to do, and even if it is for someone that we don't really like. Sometimes helping our neighbour is really hard, but we can choose to show others the love God has shown us.

Split the group into pairs and ask them to make up a modern-day story that reflects this parable. For example, it could be about being friends with someone at school that other children stay away from; it could be about standing up to a bully; it could be about stopping to chat to someone who is homeless, maybe even offering to buy them some food.

Action It

Use the following as a demonstration of how our love for God and his love for us can spill over to others. It is recommended that you practise this before the session.

You can find the guidance (the following text) and pictures of how this demonstration should look here: <http://playeatgrow.com/2015/02/valentine-object-lesson.html>

What you need:

- a paper towel
- a ballpoint pen
- a red marker
- a cup with a small amount of water
- › First draw a heart towards the bottom of the paper towel.
- › Talk about how, without God, our hearts are empty.
- › Fill in the heart with red marker.
- › Talk about how, when we accept Jesus into our hearts, he fills us.
- › Draw some hearts above the first heart.
- › Talk about how there are other hearts in the world in need of love.
- › Talk about how God wants us to share the love he gave us with others.
- › Place the bottom of the paper towel in the water.
- › Talk about how the water is like God, and when we are in him, we are able to share love.
- › As the water is absorbed, you should see the red marker shifting up to the other hearts, filling them.

Ask: How can we show love to others? Discuss some practical ways, but emphasise that it must be through being filled up with God, not of our own strength.

Challenge the children to come back next week and tell you a kind act they have done to show someone that God's love is real.

Memory verse

Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind; and, 'Love your neighbour as yourself'.

(Luke 10:27)

Pray It

Ask the children to draw around one foot and one hand on the same piece of paper. Ask them to write the following words and finish the statements. Then turn your statements into a prayer together.

I could be God's hands by...

I could be God's feet by...

'Dear God, help me see people in need. Help me hear people who need help. Help me feel for others in the world. Help me extend a hand to others. Amen.'

Explore It

Remember to share the Explore It (For Me) and Explore It (Together) ideas for children and families.

The Parable Of The Good Samaritan

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

OIL
JERUSALEM
PRIEST
WINE
HALF-DEAD
JERICHO
CLOTHES
ROBBERY
LEVITE
SILVER
WOUND
PARABLE
SAMARITAN
NEIGHBOR
INNKEEPER

The Good Samaritan Spot the Differences

Compare the picture on the top with the picture on bottom. Circle the 14 things that are different.



The Good Samaritan Spot the Differences

Compare the picture on the top with the picture on bottom. Circle the 14 things that are different.

