

The Caring Samaritan

(Luke 10:25-37)

A man asked Jesus, “What must I do to be part of God’s kingdom?”
“What does the Bible tell you?” Jesus asked.

The man replied, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, strength, and mind. Love your neighbors as much as you love yourself.”

“That’s right!” Jesus said.

Then the man asked, “Who are my neighbors?”

Jesus told this parable:

A man was traveling on the road that led from Jerusalem to Jericho. Robbers attacked him, stole everything he had, and left him laying beside the road.

A priest came down the road. When he saw the man, he crossed to the other side of the road and walked on by.

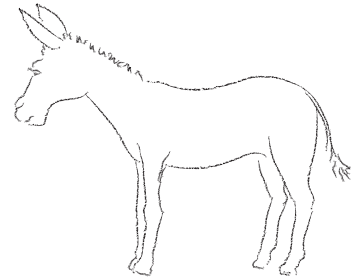
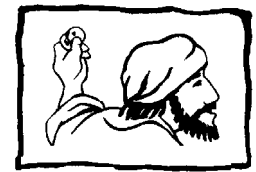
Later, a man who worked in the temple came by. He saw the injured man, too. He did not stop. He walked on by.

A man from Samaria traveled the same road. He saw the injured man and felt sorry for him. He bandaged his wounds. He placed the injured man on his donkey and took him to an inn where he cared for him. The next morning, the man from Samaria gave the innkeeper money. “Take care of my friend. If this is not enough money, I will give you more when I return.”

Jesus asked the man, “Who was a real neighbor to the injured man?”

The man replied, “The one who helped him.”

Jesus said, “Go and do the same!”

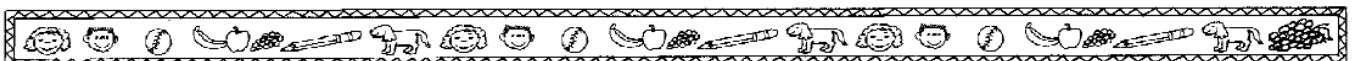


GROW

In Bible times, people who worked in the temple had to follow strict rules. If a temple worker touched the blood of an injured person the worker would not be allowed in the temple until they were made clean again during a special ceremony.

SHINE

Be a friend to someone who needs a friend.





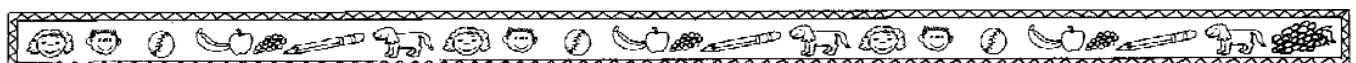
The Caring Samaritan



Here's the Story (Luke 10:25-37)

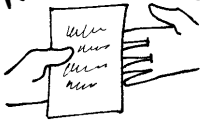
What does the parable of the Good Samaritan teach us? Unscramble the words scattered along the path to find out!

_____ . 1 John 4:19





Note to Families



An expert in God's law posed a question to Jesus: What must I do to have eternal life? Jesus answered by asking the man a question: What is written in the Scriptures? The man replied that we are to love God with our whole being and love our neighbors as we love ourselves. Jesus clarified who our neighbors are by telling the parable of the Good Samaritan. We are neighbors to everyone we meet—even to people we don't know.

Try This!



Your child likely knows what a neighbor is and perhaps can name some neighbors who live near you. Newspapers are filled with stories of people who need help. According to Jesus' parable, these people are neighbors, too. Select a story from a current newspaper or magazine that tells of a person in need. Include this person in your family's prayers.

Parable Tunes



Play "Storyteller" (Track 1) on the Parable Tunes CD. What is your favorite Bible story? Share it with someone!



Dear God, open my eyes to the needs of others. Show me how to be a good neighbor. Amen



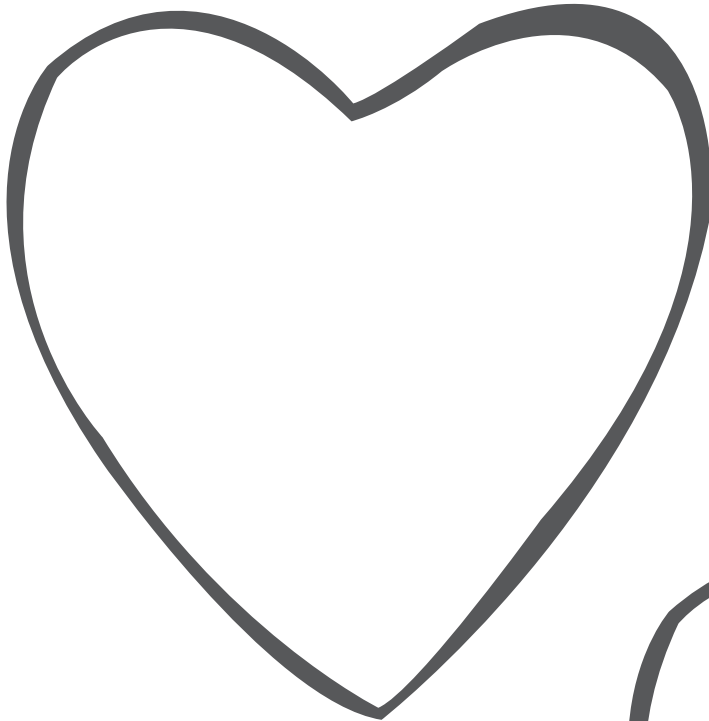
The Caring Samaritan



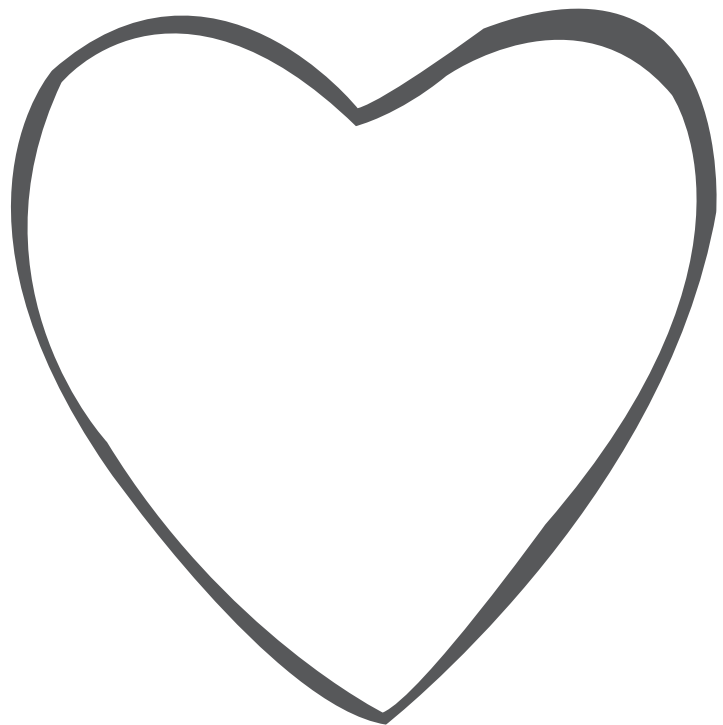
Here's the Theme (Luke 10:25-37)



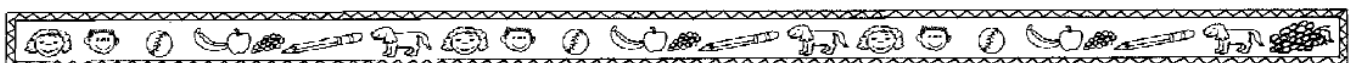
Jesus calls us to be good neighbors by caring for others. Who cares for you? Draw their pictures in the first heart. Who do you care for? Draw their pictures in the second heart.



PEOPLE WHO LOVE ME

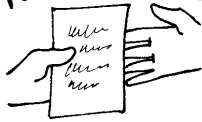


PEOPLE I LOVE





Note to Families



At one time or another, most people find themselves in a vulnerable situation that can only be resolved with the help of a stranger. The victim in Jesus' Parable of the Good Samaritan was certainly in no position to choose who his savior would be. Rather, a Samaritan—a despised foreigner—chose to help the injured man, despite whatever risks he may have faced. The parallel is this: Jesus is the Good Samaritan who gave his life for us, the injured...the vulnerable.

Parable Tunes



“Greatest Commandments”
(Track 6) on the Parable Tunes

CD is based on two commandments that Jesus taught to help people in their relationship with God and with each other. Use the words of the song to make bumper-sticker-style banners. Post them in high-traffic areas of your home.

Try This!



We never know when we may need to rely on the help of strangers. When planning a family day away from home, talk with your child about what to do if they become lost and in need of help. Tell them how to identify people in authority (police officers, shop owners, city workers). Help them memorize their own telephone number and address. If a stranger approaches them at a park or in another setting, tell them to find an adult they know who can then approach the stranger. Talking openly with your child about what to do in unexpected situations will help him or her feel in control of the situation and less fearful of the unknown.



Prayer

Thank you, God, for loving us and for giving us people who care for us, especially *[invite family members to name people who care for them]*. Help us return their love. Amen



The Caring Samaritan



The Story and Me (Luke 10:25-37)

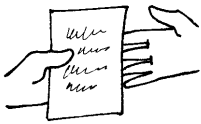


Color the pictures here. How can you show love in each situation? When we care for others we are sharing God's love!





Note to Families



When we hear the story of the Good Samaritan we often focus on the goodness of the Samaritan and the insensitivity of the two passersby. Seldom do we focus on the victim. Put yourself in his place. He was going about his business when suddenly he was ambushed, beaten, robbed, and left for dead. When have you felt desolate and forlorn? When do circumstances seem out of your control? At such times, we are assured of Jesus' ability to tend to our needs and offer us healing.

Try This!



Can you think of someone who needs a friend? Perhaps it is a co-worker, neighbor, or classmate. As a family, be on the lookout for people who are in need of friendship. Find simple ways to show your love and concern, such as making cards of encouragement, sending flowers, sharing a book, or making a phone call to ask if you can lend a hand. By your example, you will teach your children the value of friendship.

Parable Tunes



Use "Side by Side" (Track 5) on the Parable Tunes CD during family time one day this week. On another day, read the parable of the Good Samaritan from Luke 10:25-37, or take turns retelling the story. On another day, try acting out the parable while you listen to the song!



Open our eyes to people who need a friend.

Open our eyes to people who are sad.

Open our eyes to people who are hungry.

Open our eyes so that every day we look for ways to be a friend.

Amen



The Caring Samaritan



The Story and My Church (Luke 10:25-37)



SHARING AND CARING

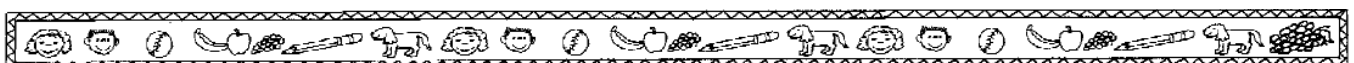
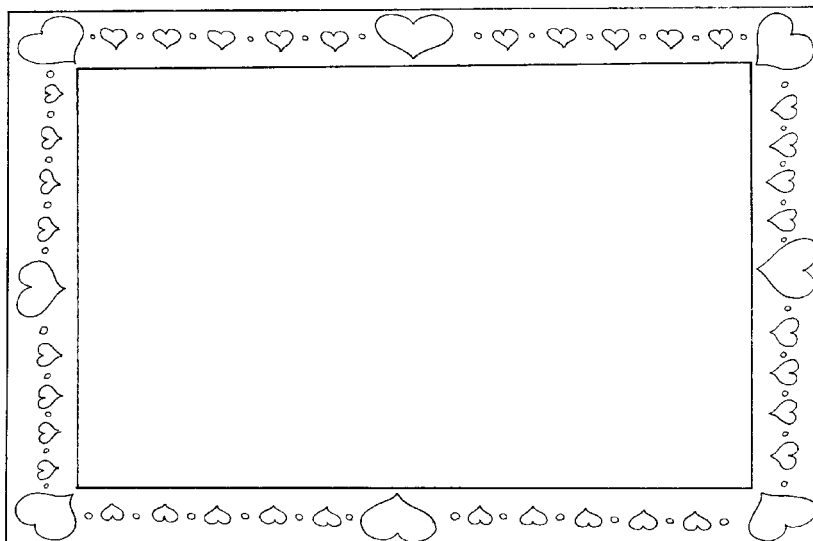
We can care for others by sharing lots of things. Search for the following words in the Word Search here, and learn about what you can share.

- Food
- Clothes
- Shelter
- Medicine
- Love
- Kindness
- Ourselves

O Y A L J M E W R M P M M G S
 T U C O Q I I A B E B J K M G
 W G R N S U S Q C D T U F S K
 Q X J S P U P E U I L L X G M
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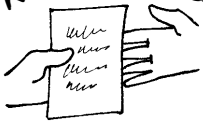
YOUR CHURCH CARES FOR OTHERS

How does your church care for others? Draw about it here.





Note to Families



Jesus knew his audience when he told the Parable of the Good Samaritan. He knew they despised people from Samaria, and he knew their laws limited their religious leaders' actions. Jesus' message was clear: some lines must be crossed in order to help a neighbor. What boundaries are you willing to overstep when it comes to helping people who are in need?

Try This!



You may know people who are considered "good Samaritans"—those who go out of their way to care for others who are in need. Such caring actions frequently go unacknowledged. As a family, make a list of people you know who are "good Samaritans." Acknowledge the people on your list by sending them thank-you notes, a plate of cookies, or a bouquet of flowers. Most of all, keep these true neighbors in your prayers, thanking God for their generous care.

Parable Tunes



Put together a kitchen band, using safe kitchen utensils and pots and pans to accompany "Love God and Your Neighbor" (Track 7) on the Parable Tunes CD. Then try singing the song as a round! Record your family's lively rendition. Enjoy each other and laugh together during this special family time!



Prayer

Hold hands as you pray: Great God, your Son is our model of love. Help us follow Jesus' command as we "go and do the same." Amen

