

The Caring Samaritan

(Luke 10:25-37)



When a man who studied God's law asked, "Who is my neighbor?" Jesus told this story:

AS A MAN WAS GOING DOWN FROM JERUSALEM TO JERICO, ROBBERS ATTACKED HIM AND GRABBED EVERYTHING HE HAD. THEY BEAT HIM UP AND RAN OFF, LEAVING HIM HALF DEAD. LUKE 10:30

A PRIEST HAPPENED TO BE GOING DOWN THE SAME ROAD. BUT WHEN HE SAW THE MAN, HE WALKED BY ON THE OTHER SIDE. LUKE 10:31

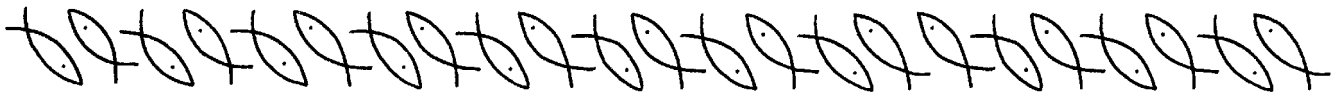
LATER A TEMPLE HELPER CAME TO THE SAME PLACE. BUT WHEN HE SAW THE MAN WHO HAD BEEN BEATEN UP, HE ALSO WENT BY ON THE OTHER SIDE. LUKE 10:32

A MAN FROM SAMARIA THEN CAME TRAVELING ALONG THAT ROAD. WHEN HE SAW THE MAN, HE FELT SORRY FOR HIM AND WENT OVER TO HIM. HE TREATED HIS WOUNDS WITH OLIVE OIL AND WINE AND BANDAGED THEM. LUKE 10:33-34

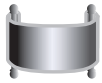
THEN HE PUT HIM ON HIS OWN DONKEY AND TOOK HIM TO AN INN, WHERE HE TOOK CARE OF HIM. LUKE 10:34

THE NEXT MORNING HE GAVE THE INNKEEPER TWO SILVER COINS AND SAID, "PLEASE TAKE CARE OF THE MAN. IF YOU SPEND MORE THAN THIS ON HIM, I WILL PAY YOU WHEN I RETURN." LUKE 10:35





The Caring Samaritan

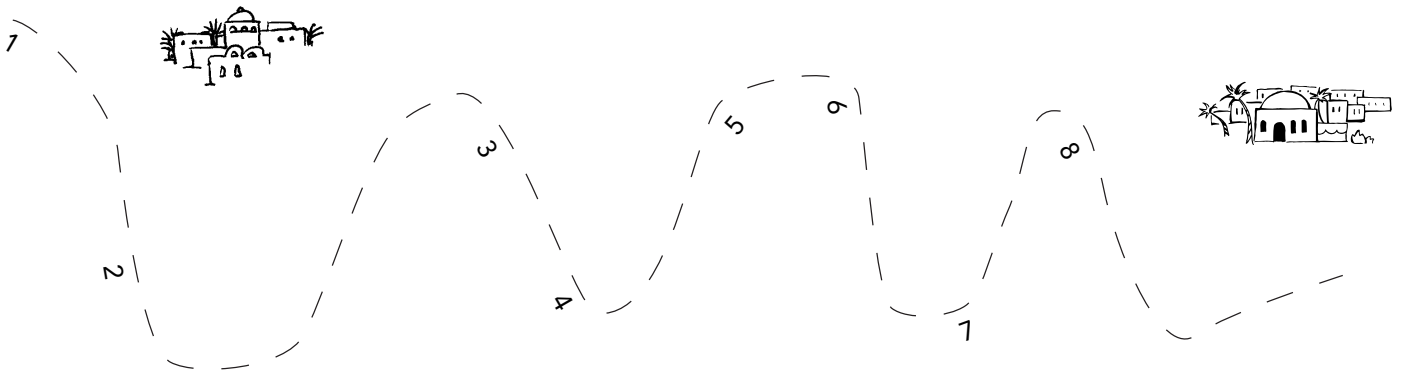


Here's the Story (Luke 10:25-37)



PARABLE PATH

Create a word path from Jerusalem to Jericho! Answer the following clues from the parable of the good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37). Write the answer to each clue in the blank spaces along the path. *Hint:* The last letter of each answer is the first letter of the next one!

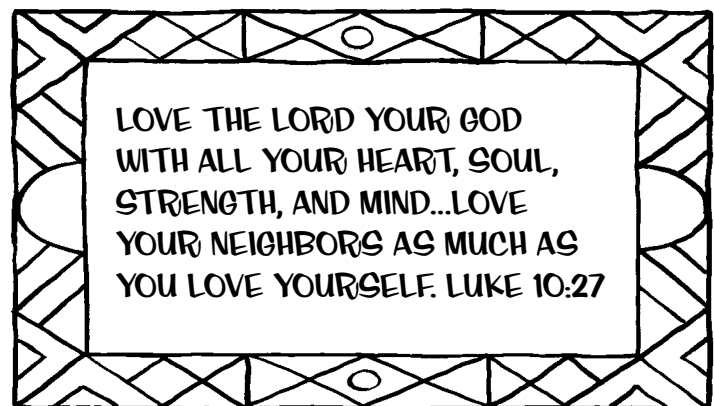


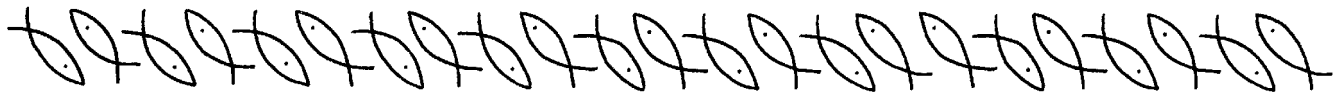
Clues

1. The first person to walk by the injured man (v. 31).
2. The second person to walk by the injured man (v. 32).
3. What the Samaritan was traveling along (v. 33).
4. What the Samaritan carried the injured man on (v. 34).
5. You are to "Love the Lord ____ God with all your heart, soul, strength, and mind" (v. 27).
6. *One* of the people who attacked the injured man (v. 30).
7. The Samaritan told the innkeeper, "I will pay you when I _____" (v. 35).
8. Jesus asked, "Which one of these three people was a real _____?" (v. 36).

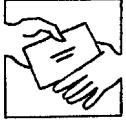
VERSE FOR TODAY

Color, cut, and keep!





Note Home



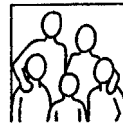
When a pious lawyer asked Jesus, “Who are my neighbors?” Jesus replied by telling the parable of the good Samaritan. In so doing, Jesus made it clear that we are to love others—including our enemies—as we love ourselves. Ask your child to retell the story of the good Samaritan to you. Or read it together from Luke 10:25-37.

Parable Tunes



Don't pass by a chance to experience God's grace in new ways this week! Begin each day by listening to “Greatest Commandments” (Track 6) on the Parable Tunes CD.

Family Time



In today's Bible story, a Samaritan helped an injured man whom other people had passed by. The Samaritan was a true friend, caring for the man and tending to his needs. Likewise, Jesus is our true friend, caring for us each day and tending to our every need. At the end of his parable, Jesus tells us to, “Go and do likewise.” Challenge each family member to be a true friend to another family member this week by tending to their needs. At the end of the week, tell how each person was able to be a true friend to your family.

Pray Together



Pray together each day. Use the following prayer or create one of your own.

Lord Jesus, help us love you with all our heart, soul, strength, and mind. Help us love each other as much as we love ourselves. Amen



The Caring Samaritan



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



THEN AND NOW

Greed, religious rules, and hatred divided people in Jesus' parable about the good Samaritan. But when we love God fully—with all our heart, soul, strength, and mind—we stand united in God's grace. How do greed, rules, and hatred divide people today? Write your ideas in the spaces under "Then" and "Now."

	THEN	NOW
Greed		
Religious rules		
Hatred		

Jesus spent his whole adult life trying to break through the greed, rules, and hatred that divided people. Through his death on the cross, we have been given the opportunity to live as people united forever in God's never-ending love.

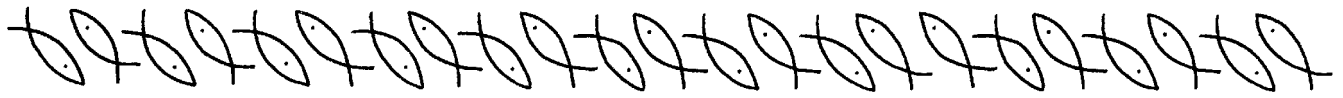
Jesus had a lot to say about living united in love. Here are just a few examples. Read each one and then think about what Jesus is inviting *you* to do.

Matthew 5:38-42 • Matthew 5:43-48 • John 13:33-35

Think of as many words as you can to describe a good neighbor. Write them in these letters:

NEIGHBOR



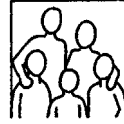


Note Home



Today as we reviewed Jesus' parable of the good Samaritan, we talked about how greed, religious rules, and hatred divided people in the story. We also discussed how those same things can divide people today. Throughout his ministry, Jesus worked to bridge divisions and unite people. Through his death and resurrection, Jesus became our living "bridge," joining us together in God's family and removing all obstacles to life in God's kingdom.

Family Time



What things create division in the world today? What issues divide people in your community? In your family? Talk together as a family and make a list of issues that divide people. Pray for the people affected by the divisions. Think of one way your family can actively build a bridge between people who are experiencing division and then work together to make it happen!

Parable Tunes



Musical tastes often vary in a family. Listen to each family member's favorite music and talk about the aspects you all appreciate in it. Listen to "Side by Side" (Track 5) on the Parable Tunes CD, and share what appeals to you.

Pray Together



As you gather together for prayer this week, express your unity by standing in a circle, arms around each other, and praying that God would help you create bridges of unity across the issues that divide your family, community, and world.



The Caring Samaritan



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



STORY PERSPECTIVE

Read the parable of the good Samaritan from Luke 10:25-37. Imagine you are one of the characters in the story (injured man, the priest/temple helper, Samaritan, innkeeper). Then answer the following questions from your character's perspective.



SAMARITAN

- What did you see? Hear? Feel?
- What surprises did you encounter today?
- What unexpected choices did you make?
- How did your faith guide your choices?



INJURED PERSON



INNKEEPER



TEMPLE HELPER



ROBBERS



PRIEST

HEART, SOUL, STRENGTH, AND MIND

Just like some of the characters in today's parable, there are times when we hurt other people with our words and actions. There are times we ignore other people's needs. But Jesus reminds us that we don't have to keep living in ways that divide us. When we love God with all our heart, soul, strength, and mind, we are empowered to love other people, too.

Complete each of the following statements as you think about loving God with all your heart, soul, strength, and mind:

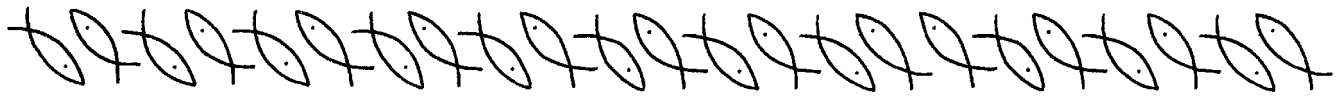
I love God with all my heart when I...

When I share my soul with someone I am...

I feel strongest when...

When it comes to loving others, I'm smart enough to know that...





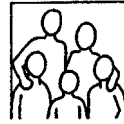
Note Home



Today your child learned that Jesus cares for us in unexpected ways.

Each class member had an opportunity to experience the parable of the Good Samaritan from the perspective of one of the characters in the story. Ask your child which character he or she represented and what it was like to view the story from a new point of view.

Family Time



Try reading the parable of the Good Samaritan together from Luke 10:25-37 while each family member imagines himself or herself as one of the secondary characters in the story, such as a robber, the innkeeper, or even the good Samaritan's donkey! What unexpected images and understandings come to light as you experience the story from a whole new angle?

Parable Tunes



Take a fifteen minute “music break” each day this week. Listen to “Love God and Your Neighbor” (Track 7) on the Parable Tunes CD, and other music you enjoy.

Pray Together



The setting for the parable of the good Samaritan is along a roadside where unexpected events form a crossroads for two men's separate journeys. As a family, journey to various locations in and around your home this week. Offer prayers and blessings at each location, inviting God's continuing guidance along your journey of faith.



The Caring Samaritan



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



PRAYER CARE

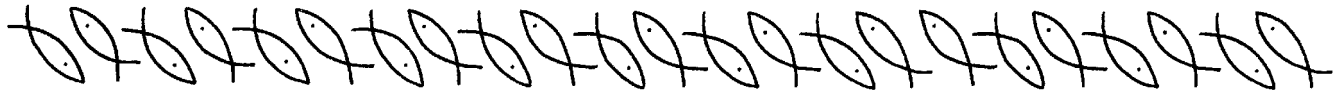
Choose one of the following descriptions and then use the space below to write a prayer concerning people who...

- Have been injured, hospitalized, or are experiencing a physical challenge.
- Hold a position of authority (government leader, city official).
- Have committed a crime.
- Have helped another person or have done charity work.
- Run a business that provides hospitality to people (hotel, restaurant).

TOOLS OF THE TRADE

The good Samaritan used his donkey, olive oil, wine, and money to help an injured stranger. Look at the objects shown here. How could you use each one to be a good neighbor to someone?



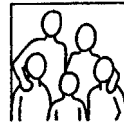


Note Home



In the parable of the good Samaritan, Jesus helps us understand that a real neighbor goes out of his or her way to provide care for someone in need. But even more so, the parable teaches us that we are all like the injured man, in need of the saving care only Jesus can provide. Because Jesus cares for us, we can care for others.

Family Time



After Jesus tells how the Samaritan showed great compassion and care for the injured man, he told his audience to “Go and do the same!” This week talk about ways your family can show compassion and care for people in your community. Consider visiting elderly members of your congregation, baking cookies for your local law enforcement officers, or volunteering to help at a community food shelf or homeless center.

Parable Tunes



Listen to “Side by Side” (Track 5) on the Parable Tunes CD, and note the words or images that express caring.

Pray Together



Gather together for prayer each day. Consider using the following prayer based on Psalm 116:5, 8-9. Try creating actions to go with each line!

You are kind, LORD,
So good and merciful.
You, LORD, have saved my life from death,
My eyes from tears,
My feet from stumbling.
Now I will walk at your side
In this land of the living.
Amen

