The Good Samaritan
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Luke 10:30-37

“Be kind one to another.” Ephesians 4:32

In the story of the Good Samaritan the priest was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, which was about 17 miles from Jerusalem. Jerusalem is about 2600 feet above sea level and Jericho is about 825 feet below sea level. They were definitely going down steep, rocky terrain. The trip was not easy and was unsafe!

There was a deep hatred between the Jews and the Samaritans. The Jews felt they were pure and direct descendants of Abraham. The Samaritans were a mixed breed of people produced when the Jews from the Northern Kingdom intermarried with other people. To the law experts in the story Jesus told, the person least likely to act the way a Christian should act was the Samaritan.
Get Ready!

Lesson Quest

What I want my students to:

Know:  We should treat everyone the same, with love

Feel:  Compassion for those who need help.

Do:  Don’t just listen with your heads; listen with your hearts and do something

Leader’s Devotion

“Come to me all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest!”  Matthew 11:28. Sometimes life seems overwhelming, with meals to prepare, kids to carpool, the house to clean, and a lesson to prepare. Think of the burdens and concerns you are carrying right now. You’re in the majority if you feel you have no time for yourself much less time to help someone else. Re-read Matthew 11:28 and unwind in God’s loving arms. Be aware of those around you that need a little extra attention and write a card or make a phone call. Be a Good Samaritan and bring some sunshine into someone’s life!
Get Set!

Option A

**Materials:** 12 large (flat) potatoes, chairs, music  
**Preparation:** Place the 3-largest/flattest potatoes together in the center of the room. Place chairs in a circle around the potatoes (one per child)

**Procedure:** Have students sit in the chairs in the circle and stress that these potatoes are very dirty and you want to get rid of it. It must be passed, NOT THROWN as the music is played. For added excitement, as the potato is passed the child passing it could say “Hot Potato” When the music stops, whoever has the potato must stack it on the other potatoes to build a tower. Begin the music again and start a second potato. When the music stops whoever has the potato must stack it on the other potatoes. Continue to play until the stack of potatoes falls over.

Seat children around your story time area.  
**How did you feel when you were the one holding the dirty potato when the music stopped?**  
In our story today, we’re going to learn about how people treated a man who was dirty and hurt.

**GO TO THE BIBLE STORY**

Option B

**Materials:** A phone with numbers that students can practice dialing 911

**Procedure:** place the phone in a bag and let the children guess what is inside  
I’m sure all of you are familiar with what I have in this bag. I’m going to give you hints as to what is hidden in the bag. People hold it. It can help someone. Sometimes people yell in it. Some of you can use it and some of you probably don’t. Almost everyone in the (our hometown) has at least one of these and sometimes 2. You can talk into this and you can also hear with it. Some times it gives you good news and sometimes it gives you bad news. It rings when you’re trying to eat supper. Does everyone know what it is? A phone.

Today we’re going to learn how to use the phone to get help. Do you know who to call if there is an emergency and you need help? 9 1 1 is the number to call when there is an emergency. Let’s each practice dialing 911 and telling the person on the phone our name and that we need help. In our story today, you’re going to hear a story Jesus told about a man that needed help and it seemed like no one would help him.

**GO TO THE BIBLE STORY**
We all know that parables are stories Jesus told with hidden messages. Jesus told a lot of stories called parables and the one we are going to hear today is called The Good Samaritan. One day a man who worked copying the Bible and teaching asked Jesus, “What must I do to have to be in the Kingdom?” Jesus said, “You read the Bible, what does it say?” The man answered his own question, “You are to love God with all your heart and love your neighbor as yourself.” The man wasn’t satisfied, so he asked Jesus, (question in a sarcastic way) “So who is my neighbor. Now Jesus knew that this man hated certain people and would never love them. So he told a story that people could understand. Jesus said, “One day a man was traveling along a lonely road from Jerusalem to Jericho. The road was rocky and steep and some robbers attacked this man and ripped his clothes and beat him really bad. Just after that a priest passed by and didn’t even stop. Next, another man a Levite who helped the priests, came along and looked at the poor man, and walked on the other side of the road to avoid getting near him. Then came along a Samaritan, one of the people that the Jews hated most. Do you think he would help him? No one expected him to help because the Jews hated him so bad. Guess what he did?

When he saw what had happened, he felt really bad for the man and without even thinking about it, he went over to help him. He kneeled down beside the hurt man and cleaned his wounds and wrapped them up as good as he could. Then he very carefully placed the man on his own donkey and took him to the nearest motel. He got a room for the man and some food. The next day when he was ready to leave, he told the person that worked at the motel, “I’ll leave you some money, to take care of him and if you spend more than this, I’ll pay you when I come back.” Then Jesus said, “Which one of these men that helped the man who was attacked by robbers was a good neighbor?” The man was impressed with Jesus and answered,” The man that helped!” Jesus said then you go and help others too! The scribe learned that a neighbor is just not someone who lives next to you. We are to treat everyone alike and help anyone who needs help! We are to love God and help others to be in His Kingdom!

In today’s story we learned of loving our neighbors and helping others. This is a sweet message from God’s word. I have something sweet in my Bible that reminds me of our story. (open the Bible and allow each child to take a piece of band-aid gum) Remember whenever you see a stick of gum or Band-Aid…that no matter what happens to you that God can fix it. His sweet message of helping others is right here in the Bible. God wants us to be kind to others and we will be in His Kingdom!
Go!

Jolly Ball

GAME
Materials: two jump ropes and a foam ball

Preparation: Place the jump ropes end to end to form the center of our playing floor. Play a cooperative game of volley ball and get the giggles.

Procedure: We know of 3 people who went by the injured man and only the third one stopped to help. We will form 2 teams. Number off by threes on each team.

The one’s will be Ho’s the 2’s Hee’s and 3’s Ha’s. Whenever you touch the ball you must also shout out either HO, HEE, or HA. At least 2 players from your team must touch the ball before it goes to the other side. Every time you get the ball over the net you will score 1 point. The team reaching 5 wins. We should be happy helping others!

Close

Let’s think of ways that we can be helpful to others this week. First let’s think about it at home. (write on board students suggestions) How about at school? (write on board students suggestions) Other places?
Unit 5—The Good Samaritan

Go!

Connected Friends

SCIENCE
Materials: Eight inch string, straw, ice cube, glass of cold water and salt

Quest Connection

Procedure: Tie one end of the string to the straw and dip the string into the water. Drop an ice cube into the cold water and place the loose end of the string across the ice cube. Sprinkle salt on the string. Count slowly to thirty and lift the string. The string sticks to the ice cube because the salt makes the water very cold and allows the water on the top of the ice cube to freeze. The frozen water makes the string cling to the ice cube.

Jesus wants us to connect with others and help them. The string represents us, do you think we can lift someone else up and help them? (as the string is dipped into the water, suggest that sometimes we are up and sometimes we are down but Jesus is always there to help us and help others!)

Close

As we place the string on the ice cube and sprinkle the salt on ... that shows what a difference Jesus can make in our lives. He can help us lift others up! We need to be a Good Samaritan and help others or lift them up. How can do that we this week?
Go!

Bone Bender

Materials: Jar, vinegar, clean leg bone from a chicken

Quest Connection

Procedure: Soak the chicken bone in vinegar for one week. Soaking a bone in a jar of vinegar can make it soft and rubbery. The acidic vinegar removes minerals from the bones and leaves the collagen.

What would have happened if we would have taken this bone out of the jar and washed it off and placed it in the sun to dry? (Response) You’re right, it would be firm. This shows what happens when we just leave things alone, instead of helping when help is needed. The Good Samaritan had a soft heart and was kind enough to help the stranger. God wants us to help others.

Close

When is it alright to help someone who is a stranger? A man was dirty and hurt and most people would not help him. The Good Samaritan went out of his way to help the hurt man. We should treat everyone the same no matter what they look like and we should help others in need.
Materials: Construction paper, pencil, glue

Procedure: Give children a piece of construction paper and let them draw around their hand. Cut the hands out and arrange students hands in a circle like a wreath. Glue them together and place them on your door or bulletin board.

Do you know your neighbors? A man asked Jesus who his neighbor was and Jesus told him the story of the Good Samaritan. Everyone is our neighbor and we should be willing to help them. We will make a helping hand wreath to remind us to help others.

Does your family help out your neighbor?
Go!

**Activity Name**

ART/DRAMA

**Materials:** Large paper bag, fabric patches, scissors, Band-Aids, glue

**Quest Connection**

We are going to re-enact our Bible story about the Good Samaritan. We are going to make a costume.

**Procedure:** Open the bag and cut down the center of a wide side for the front and turn it wrong side out. Cut a 6 inch circle in the bottom of the bag for a neck hole. Cut a 5 inch circle in each narrow side of the bag for arms. Glue on fabric patches.

Close
Go!

I Will Help Doll

ART
Materials: Large roll of paper (newspaper printers sometimes have ends of rolls they will donate), Pencils, markers, and scissors

Quest Connection

What are some things that you can do yourself to help others? We are going to do a special project today so that we can be “Good Samaritans” to people that we know.

Procedure:
Cut papers the length of each student. Have the student lie on the paper and trace around their body. Let each student, add facial features and draw clothes on their body. Have students cut them out. Their doll will be called “FLAT (name)” Each student will be mailing their “Flat _____” to someone they think could use some help. They will be offering themselves for service, maybe to sweep a garage, wash windows, rake leaves, etc. It would be nice to take homemade cookies over to share when the job is completed.

Close

You have done such great jobs drawing yourselves. This is just the beginning of our project! Next we’re going to mail our “Flat (name)” to someone we could help. We’ll write them a note and say, “We’d like to spend some time with you and help you do something you would like done!” I will call this week and make an appointment so I can come help you! Love, “Flat . . .” By helping others we are doing what Jesus wants us to do. We can be a Good Samaritan.
Journal page

Jesus wants us to be kind to others.

Draw or write some things you can do this week to be kind to someone.
Slide or Climb

Use a button as a marker to play. Flip a coin for your man to move. Heads move forward one and tails moves two. If you land on a ladder, climb up, and if you land on a slide, slide down. The player that helps someone first wins!
"BEAR ONE ANOTHER’S BURDENS!"

Materials: Frozen juice can, construction paper, scissors, glue, crayons or markers, bear pattern, wiggle eyes, new or used crayons.

Complete this project and give as a gift to a women and children's shelter.

Cut construction paper to fit the juice can and attach with glue. Cut the bear out and color. Attach wiggle eyes and then glue it to the back of the juice can with the arms sticking out above the can and the bear facing forward. Print "Bear One Another's Burdens!" on the front outside of the can. Fill the container with crayons (new or used) and give it as a gift to someone sick or a shelter.
Discover what Jesus wants us to do.
Color the spaces with the smiley faces.
Circle the pictures that show someone helping others.
Jesus wants us to help others!