
TEACHER PREPARATION


WORSHIP CIRCLE

STORY AND DISCUSSION

One day, a man was asking the Lord how to get to heaven. The man knew that he was supposed to love the Lord and to love his neighbor, but he asked the Lord, “Who is my neighbor?”

The Lord wanted to tell the man who his neighbor was by telling him a story, and this is the story that he told:

A man was once walking along a road to a city called Jericho. As he was walking along, a terrible thing happened to him. Some robbers jumped out from behind some rocks! They hurt him, and took away his clothing and everything else that he had. Then the robbers went away, and left the poor man lying on the road. He was hurt very badly, and he was bleeding. He couldn’t even walk anywhere to get help.

Now it happened that a priest came walking along the road. A priest is supposed to teach people about the Lord and be kind to people. The poor hurt man hoped that the priest would help him. But do you know what? The priest saw the poor hurt man, but he didn’t even stop to help. He just went to the other side of the road and kept on walking. Do you think that this priest was a good neighbor? No. He wasn’t nice at all.

Soon another person came walking along the road. This was a man called a Levite man. The poor hurt man hoped that the Levite man would stop and help him. The Levite man saw the poor hurt man but, guess what - just like the priest this Levite man didn’t stop to help. He just went to the other side of the road and walked right by. Do you think this Levite man was a good neighbor? No, he wasn’t either.

The poor hurt man must have started to worry that maybe he would die there on the road, because no one would help him. But then, along came a Samaritan man. The Samaritan man saw the poor hurt man, and he felt sorry for him. The Samaritan man didn’t keep on walking—he did stop to help the poor hurt man! He went to him, and poured some oil and wine on his cuts to help them get better. He put bandages on his cuts. Then he picked up the poor man and put him on his donkey. He took him on his donkey all the way to the city and brought him to an inn. An inn is a building that has lots of rooms and beds for people to rest in. The Samaritan man found the innkeeper, the man who was in charge of the inn. He gave the innkeeper some money and said, “Please take care of this man. And when I come back, if you need more money to take care of him, I will give you more.”
Do you think that this Samaritan man was a good neighbor? Yes! He was kind and helpful. So the Lord had told this story to show that a good neighbor is someone who is kind to others. The Lord wants us all to be nice to other people, and help them whenever we can.

**RECITATION**

Now we will say something together from this story in the Lord’s Word. I will say a part, and then you say it after me.

But a certain Samaritan...
went to him
and bandaged his wounds,
pouring on oil and wine;

**PROJECT**

**Ahead of time:**

Photocopy the pages so that each child will have a picture of the wounded man and the three trails of footprints, and a picture of the priest, the Levite, and the Samaritan.

**Doing the project:**

1. Give to each child the picture of the wounded man and the three trails of footprints.

2. Point out to the children the three trails of footprints, how two of the trails go right past the wounded man, and one of the trails goes right to him.

3. Remind the children of the three men that came along the road: the priest, the Levite, and the Samaritan.

4. Ask them:
   a) Which is the trail of the priest? (The one that goes right past the hurt man.)
   b) Which is the trail of the Levite? (The other one that goes right past.)
   c) Which is the trail of the Samaritan? (The one that goes right up to the hurt man. The Samaritan was a good neighbor!)

5. Give each child the picture of the three men. See if they can tell which is the Samaritan, who stopped to help.

6. Now have them cut out the three pictures and paste them at the end of the correct trail of footprints.

7. Then they can color the picture.
"So which of these three
do you think was the neighbor
to him who fell among
the thieves?"

Luke 10:36