

The story of the Good Samaritan

Think together: Have a look at these situations and ask - would you help? Maybe do thumbs up for yes and down for no.

- Your dad wants you to wash the car for him, but your favourite programme is just starting. Will you help?
- Your brother has been really annoying all day. Now he is building his Lego and he wants you to hold some of the bits for him. Will you help?
- Your best friend has been playing with someone else, leaving you on your own. Now you are drawing pictures, and your friend (who can't draw) asks you to draw a cat. Will you help?
- Your mum is getting the washing in because it is raining. You are busy playing with your friend on a computer game. Will you help?
- Your neighbour, who is always complaining that "children are such a nuisance", is struggling to carry her shopping in from the car. Will you help?
- Peter is always making you cry because he calls you silly names and sometimes hits you. Now he has fallen over and hurt his knee. Will you help him?



Watch and read together: this story can be found in Luke 10:25-37 or you can watch this (animated) video <https://youtu.be/osfQg4yKtq8>

Chat together:

I wonder what surprised you most about this story that Jesus told?

I wonder why Jesus told the story of the good Samaritan?

How does this story help us to understand who our neighbour is?

I wonder what God might be saying to you through this story?

Did you know?

In Jesus time, a priest was the most important person in the temple, he kept the lamps lit, blessed people and taught them the ways of God that were written in the scriptures.

The Levites also worked in the temple, collecting offerings from the people, singing and keeping the temple in good order.

The Samaritans lived in nearby Samaria and although they were neighbours, the Jews and the Samaritans did not get on and disliked each other. The people listening to the story really wouldn't expect the Samaritan to help the Jewish man, they would have been quite surprised by the story.

Pray together:

You will need paper, a pencil and scissors. Firstly, draw around your hand on a piece of paper and then cut it out.

On the palm of the hand write 'Who is my neighbour?'

Spend a few moments thinking whether there are people you know you should help - even if you don't want to or don't even like them - and then write their names on the fingers of your hand.

Think about how Jesus was saying that these people are all our neighbours! Ask God to show you how you could show his love to them this week.



Father God, please help us to show your love to others, give us courage to be kind to people who are unkind to us and give us opportunities to make a difference in our homes and our communities. Amen

To do together:

Make a card to send to someone to cheer them up if they are unwell or feeling sad.

You will need card, some sticking plasters (ask first), wobbly eyes if you have them & pens.

Fold the card in half (if you only have paper fold that into four to make it stronger) and stick a sticking plaster onto the card. Add wobbly eyes and draw on a nose and mouth.

Draw arms and legs and hair. Decorate the card with hearts or flowers. Decide who you are going to send the card to and write inside. You may want to add a message on the front too.

You might like to watch this week's video where Mary shows you how to make the cards: <https://youtu.be/cg5JkrzZ6Ac>



Other activities to try:

Write the letters for 'good Samaritan' on a sheet of paper and try and find as many words as you can from the letters. You can only use the letters once in a word. Here's a couple to get you started: mood tram

Make a difference:

We can make a difference to the world, and to the people we pass in it, in a hundred different ways -from smiling at a lonely person to picking up litter to holding the door open; or in bigger ways like helping a neighbour with shopping or standing up for a bullied child or an unpopular teacher.

Have a think about ways in which you, personally, can make a difference to the world as you pass through it every day. If you like you could draw a cartoon of one of your ideas and then keep it in your Bible as a reminder to ask God to help you make a difference to the world this week!

Retell the story:

Maybe you could tell the story to someone else in your family? You could use small world figures like Playmobil or Lego, or you could try this fun and messy version using four bananas and an orange! (Ask first and make sure they are not wasted afterwards!)

Draw an identical face on two bananas and put one of them to the side. Draw faces on the other bananas as in the pictures. Draw a face on the orange too.

Begin by saying that bananas and oranges do not like each other and can be very mean to each other!



Stan is a happy banana but on the way to the shops one day he is set upon by other fruit, his money is stolen and Stan ends up squished and peeled on the side of the road (this is where is can get very messy)

A high and mighty lady banana comes along but is worried she will get dirty and she is just too important and busy to care about poor squished Stan so she carries on with her journey. Next, the banana mayor comes along and sees Stan but he is late for a meeting and is way too important to stop and help so he also goes on his way.

Stan is feeling a bit upset that he is still lying squished on the road but he can hear more footsteps so he is hopeful that the next person will help. Unfortunately, the next character along is an orange! Stan really thinks he's in trouble now! The orange wonders if he should help because, obviously, a banana is his enemy but eventually he decides to stop. After all, if it was him on the floor he'd want some help! The orange takes Stan home, patches him up, put him together again and, before long, Stan is as good as new! (you'll need to swap over to the identical banana now!)

Don't forget to chat about what this means and how we can show extravagant love to others!

