



Jesus Tells About the Good Samaritan Luke 10:25-37

Third- and fourth-graders can understand that God loves them and loves other people, too. They also understand practical ways to show their friends God's love. Use this lesson to help them realize they can share God's love with everyone, not just their friends.

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<p>1</p> <p>Getting Started</p>	<p>The Nicest Thing <i>(about 10 min.)</i></p> <p>Talk about and act out the nicest thing someone's done for them and the nicest thing they've done for someone else.</p>		
<p>2</p> <p>Bible Exploration</p>	<p>Good Sam Relay <i>(about 15 min.)</i></p> <p>Play a relay game based on the Bible passage.</p>	<p>Bibles, Bible Truth Sleuth, pens Teacher Pack: "Good Sam" cards</p> 	<p>Tear out the Lesson 5 pages from each Bible Truth Sleuth student book.</p> <p>Tear apart the "Good Sam" cards and shuffle them. Put the cards in four stacks, making sure that one of the four "Samaritan" cards is in each stack.</p>



► Bible Point

Jesus says to love others as ourselves.

Key Verse

"Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you" (Ephesians 4:32).

Weaving Faith Into Life

Kids will show compassion to someone in a specific way this week.





LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<p style="text-align: center;">3 Weaving Faith Into Life</p>	<p>My Neighbors <i>(about 20 min.)</i> Consider ways they can show God’s love to others, including people they wouldn’t normally think of.</p>	<p>CD player, slips of paper, pens, hat, adhesive bandages, tape, copies of the lyrics page (at the end of this lesson) Teacher Pack: CD, “My Neighbors” poster</p> 	<p>Hang the “My Neighbors” poster where kids can reach all parts of it. Put numbers in a hat to correspond with the numbers on the pictures.</p>
	<p>Just as in Christ <i>(about 10 min.)</i> Look at ways they give and receive kindness, compassion, and forgiveness.</p>	<p>Bibles, index cards, pens</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">4 Lasting Impressions</p>	<p>Daily Challenges <i>(about 5 min.)</i> Commit to showing love to a specific person.</p>		
	<p>Weaving Faith at Home <i>(about 2 min.)</i> Talk about how to share what they learned with their families.</p>		





1 GETTING STARTED

The Nicest Thing

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Welcome kids warmly as they arrive, and ask them how their week went.

Have kids form pairs and take turns telling their partners, "The nicest thing anyone ever did for me was..." and finishing the sentence. Next have them take turns telling, "The nicest thing I ever did for anyone was..." and finishing the sentence.

After pairs have shared, have each pair choose which nice thing to act out, without speaking, for the rest of the group. Have the rest of the kids guess the action by saying, "The nicest thing anyone ever did was..." and then naming the action.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead kids in this discussion.

Ask:

- What's it like when someone does something kind for you?
- What are the rewards for you when you do something kind for someone else?
- What makes you want to be kind to others? What makes you sometimes not want to be kind?

Say: **In today's Bible passage, we'll learn about a man who stopped to help someone who was hurt and needed help. We'll talk about what it means to be kind, compassionate, and forgiving, and we'll discover that ► JESUS SAYS TO LOVE OTHERS AS OURSELVES.**

2 BIBLE EXPLORATION

Good Sam Relay



■ **Tip** If you have a small group, remove all but one of the Samaritan cards from the deck. Then have only one child be the man from Jerusalem, and have the rest of the group continue to choose cards until you come to the Samaritan card.

Good Sam Relay Supplies

Bibles
Bible Truth Sleuth
pens
Teacher Pack
"Good Sam" cards

Good Sam Relay Easy Prep

Tear out the Lesson 5 pages from each Bible Truth Sleuth student book.

Tear apart the "Good Sam" cards and shuffle them. Put the cards in four stacks, making sure that one of the four "Samaritan" cards is in each stack.



What You'll Do

Say: **Our Bible passage today is about Jesus' story of the good Samaritan. Let's take a look at the story by playing a game to learn more about the people in it. But first, let's talk about why Jesus told this story. The Bible says an expert in the law wanted to test Jesus. The law expert knew he needed to love his neighbor, but asked Jesus who his neighbor was.**

It's at this point that Jesus told him a story. Let's play it out.

Ask for a willing child to be the Innkeeper. Have him or her stand in an area designated as "the inn." Each group will try to get their Man From Jerusalem to this area.

Have the rest of the kids form four groups. One child in each group will be the Man From Jerusalem. Have the Man From Jerusalem in each group walk from one side of the room to the next.

Say: **Jesus said the man from Jerusalem fell into the hands of robbers who beat him, took his clothes, and went away, leaving him half dead.**

Have the kids who play the Man From Jerusalem act out being beaten up, and then sit or lie in a row in the middle of the room.

Set the four stacks of "Good Sam" cards on the floor. Have each group stand behind a pile of cards. One child in each group will draw a card, all at the same time. If the card says "Priest," the child will run to and around that group's Man From Jerusalem and then get back in line. Likewise, if the card says "Levite," the child will run to and around his or her Man From Jerusalem and get back in line. Kids will continue doing this until someone draws the Samaritan card. Then all group members will escort their Man From Jerusalem to the Innkeeper. After all groups have each taken their Man From Jerusalem to the inn, have kids sit together.

Have kids find partners and turn to the "This Is Love" activity on their Bible Truth Sleuth pages. Have Bibles available for kids to share, and distribute pens to each child.

Say: **With your partner, look up Luke 10:30-35 and look at each of the people in Jesus' parable shown on your Bible Truth Sleuth page. Based on what you read, write one word or a sentence to describe how each person's choices did or didn't show love.**

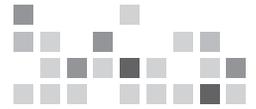
Give pairs several minutes to write about each of the people in the parable. When kids have finished, ask for willing children to share what they wrote about the choices of each of the people.

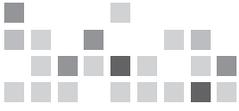
Talk With Kids

Lead kids in this discussion.

Ask:

- **What was it like to act like the Priest and Levite in the relay?**
- **What was it like to be the injured man from Jerusalem?**
- **What can you learn from the Samaritan's actions?**
- **What are some ways you show compassion to others, like the Samaritan did?**





My Neighbors Supplies

CD player
slips of paper
pens
hat
adhesive bandages
tape
copies of the lyrics page
(at the end of this
lesson)

Teacher Pack

CD: "Love Is"
(1 Corinthians 13:4-5)
(track 14)
"My Neighbors" poster

My Neighbors Easy Prep

Hang the "My
Neighbors" poster
where kids can reach all
parts of it. Put numbers
in a hat to correspond
with the numbers on
the pictures.

Say: **Let's see what Jesus said about this.**

Read aloud Luke 10:36-37 to the whole group.

Say: **Jesus told the parable of the good Samaritan to help us understand what it means to show compassion. He could have simply said, "Hey, everyone be nice already." Instead, he told a powerful story to show us what God's love looks like: ► JESUS SAYS TO LOVE OTHERS AS OURSELVES. Let's take a look at ways we can do that.**

3 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

My Neighbors

What You'll Do

Have kids find new partners. Gather kids around the "My Neighbors" poster, and point out the hat with the numbers in it.

Say: **In your pairs, come up to the hat and draw one number per pair. Then come up to the poster and find the numbered picture that matches the number you've picked.**

After kids have found their corresponding pictures, have one partner role-play the person in the picture. The other partner will role-play how to act like a good Samaritan toward that person. For example, if a pair draws the number that corresponds to the picture showing an elderly woman struggling to carry groceries, the first child would act out how that woman is struggling and what she might need. Her need might be as simple as "I sure wish I had someone to help me carry these grocery bags." Then the second child will come along and help.

Ask pairs to act out their scenes for the rest of the group. Thank everyone for their participation.

Say: **In our Bible passage, Jesus wanted the teacher to know what love in action looked like. That's why he told the story of the good Samaritan instead of just telling the teacher what to do. That's why we looked at helping people who might be in similar situations as on our "My Neighbors" poster. Let's remember what love is by singing a song that tells us.**

Pass out copies of the lyrics, and play "Love Is" (1 Corinthians 13:4-5) (track 14 on the CD). After they listen once, have kids sing along and do the motions.

 **Love is patient,** (*pat a neighbor's back*)
Love is kind, (*keep patting*)



It does not envy, (*pat another neighbor's back*)
It does not boast, (*keep patting*)
It is not proud. (*shake hands with a neighbor*)
It is not rude, (*keep shaking*)
It's not self-seeking, (*shake another neighbor's hand*)
Not easily angered, (*keep shaking*)
It keeps no record of wrongs. No! (*shake head and pointer finger; then punch fist on "No!"*)
Love keeps no record of wrongs. (*shake head and pointer finger*)
Love is, love is,
Love is, love is...(*hug self and freestyle move to the beat*)

(Repeat from the beginning.)

**Love is, love is,
Love is, love is.**

"Love Is" (1 Corinthians 13:4-5) by Carol Smith. © 2003 Group Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead kids in this discussion.

Ask:

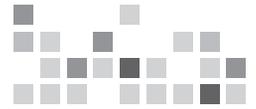
- **What does it mean to love the people in the pictures of our "My Neighbors" poster?**
- **How can you offer love to someone who might be in the same situations as the people on the poster?**
- **What would make it sometimes hard to show love to people?**

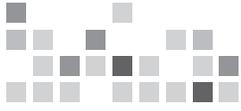
Give each child an adhesive bandage and a pen.

Say: **We're going to commit to showing love to someone. On your bandage, write the name of someone you're going to show love to in a specific way this week. For example, maybe you'll let your brother play your favorite video game first. Or maybe at recess you'll play with someone who's usually left out. Whatever you decide to do, make sure you're putting someone else's needs first.**

Give kids about two minutes to commit to loving someone this week. Ask kids to put their bandages in a place that will remind them of their commitments. Then ask kids to pray for their partners, asking God to help them remember to love others.

Say: ► **JESUS SAYS TO LOVE OTHERS AS OURSELVES. That means we should think of them in the same way as we think about ourselves, putting their needs first. The pictures on our "My Neighbors" poster give just a few of the situations where we can show compassion. When we show acts of compassion and love, we become more like Christ.**





Just as in Christ Supplies

Bibles
index cards
pens

Just as in Christ

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Give each child two index cards and a pen, and have everyone sit in a circle. Make sure every child has a Bible.

Have kids open their Bibles to Ephesians 4:32, and together read the verse aloud: **“Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you” (Ephesians 4:32).**

Say: **Sometimes when we hear words like that from the Bible, we know in general what to do. But let’s get more specific with how you can be kind, compassionate, and forgiving. The wonderful thing about kindness, compassion, and forgiveness is that they reach their fullest value when we’re able to both give and receive them.**

Have kids write “kindness/compassion” on one of their cards, and then have them write a way someone has shown them kindness—make sure it’s something kids don’t mind sharing. Then have them pass the index card to the person on the left. Kids will read their new index cards, add another example, and continue passing them until the index cards are full.

Repeat the activity with the topic of forgiveness.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead kids in this discussion.

Ask:

- **What was it like to keep on passing along kindness and forgiveness?**
- **When has someone else’s kindness or forgiveness to you encouraged you to pass it on?**
- **What are some ways to show kindness or compassion for someone who’s hurting?**

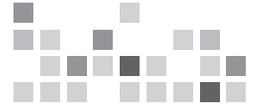
Say: **Today we’ve looked at Jesus’ powerful story of the good Samaritan. Jesus’ story shows us what it really looks like to love others with kindness and compassion. ► JESUS SAYS TO LOVE OTHERS AS OURSELVES. May we all choose the way of the good Samaritan and know the fullness of giving and receiving kindness, compassion, and forgiveness. When we do, we show God’s love in the world.**





4

LASTING
IMPRESSIONS



Daily Challenges

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Say: **Let's think about how we can love others as ourselves this week.**

Instead of choosing a Daily Challenge this week, show God's love to the person you've named on your adhesive bandage.

Be sure to commit to this Daily Challenge as well. Kids will be more inclined to follow through on their commitments when they see you doing the same.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Ask:

- **What's a practical way you're going to do your Daily Challenge? Share a time, a place, or other ideas.** Allow time.

Say: ► **JESUS SAYS TO LOVE OTHERS AS OURSELVES.** Jesus showed how to do that by giving us a story to help us know what loving others looks like. Let's show our willingness to show love to others this week by following through with our Daily Challenge.

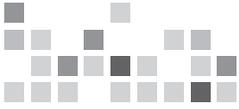
Weaving Faith at Home

Encourage kids to talk with their parents about the commitment they made to show love to a specific person and what they learned about loving others as themselves. Kids can also do the activities in the "HomeConnect" section of their Bible Truth Sleuth pages with their families.

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church's families. Available at group.com/digital.

Take a couple of minutes to pray with your kids, thanking God for teaching us how to love others as ourselves and asking him to give us the determination to love both ourselves and others this week.



**Lyrics** ■■■■**Love Is (1 Corinthians 13:4-5)**

Love is patient,
Love is kind,
It does not envy,
It does not boast,
It is not proud.
It is not rude,
It's not self-seeking,
Not easily angered,
It keeps no record of wrongs. No!
Love keeps no record of wrongs.
Love is, love is,
Love is, love is...

(Repeat from the beginning.)

**Love is, love is,
Love is, love is.**

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