

WEEK NINE

PARABLE OF THE GOOD SAMARITAN

BIG IDEA

God wants us to

LOVE OTHERS EVEN WHEN IT IS HARD

PREP: (Kids can help!)

- Find some props. (Tea towels for Priest and Levite, blanket for donkey, chair for a hiding place, a package for the 'loot' and pillowcases for the robbers.)
- Cracker biscuits and a drink of water for each child.

WHAT GOES IN THE BOX?

- A packet of plasters/band aids
- A treat to share (popcorn, sweets, etc.)
- A4 paper and pens



OUT OF THE BOX

- Take out the packet of band aids

What are these?

Who uses them? When do we use them?

How does it feel when someone puts one of these on us?

INTRO

Did you know that Jesus often didn't answer people's questions straight away?

He sometimes told a story so they could work out for themselves what the answer was.

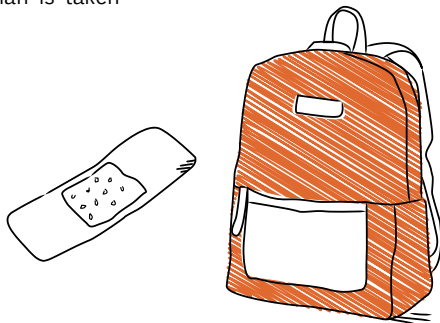
A man asked Jesus one day how he could get to heaven. Jesus asked him what he thought he needed to do. The man said to love God and your neighbour as much as you love yourself. Jesus thought that was a great answer. But the man wasn't sure who counted as his 'neighbour' or how he should show love.

READ

Let's read the parable together and see who Jesus calls our neighbour... and what it really means to love our neighbour.

See if you can figure out what band aids have to do with the story.

- Bring out the props and share them around (parents play Priest, Levite and Samaritan while children play donkey, bandits and traveller.)
 - Tea towels on the Priest and the Levite
 - A blanket for the donkey on all fours
 - A chair for the bandits to hide behind while they wait to attack the traveller.
 - Pillow cases for the bandits to carry the loot they steal from the traveller
 - Band aids for the Samaritan to carry
 - A bag for the traveller to carry
 - A couch could be the hotel where the hurt man is taken



“ There was once a man traveling from Jerusalem to Jericho. On the way he was attacked by robbers. They took his clothes, beat him up, and went off leaving him half-dead. Luckily, a priest was on his way down the same road, but when he saw him he moved across to the other side. Then a Levite, a religious man showed up; he also avoided the injured man.

A Samaritan traveling the road came on him. When he saw the man’s condition, his heart went out to him. He gave him first aid, washing and bandaging his wounds. Then he lifted him onto his donkey, led him to an inn, and made him comfortable.

In the morning he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, “Take good care of him. If it costs any more, put it on my bill – I’ll pay you on my way back.”

“What do you think? Which of the three became a neighbour to the man attacked by robbers?”

“The one who treated him kindly,” the religious scholar responded.

Jesus said, “Go and do the same.” ”

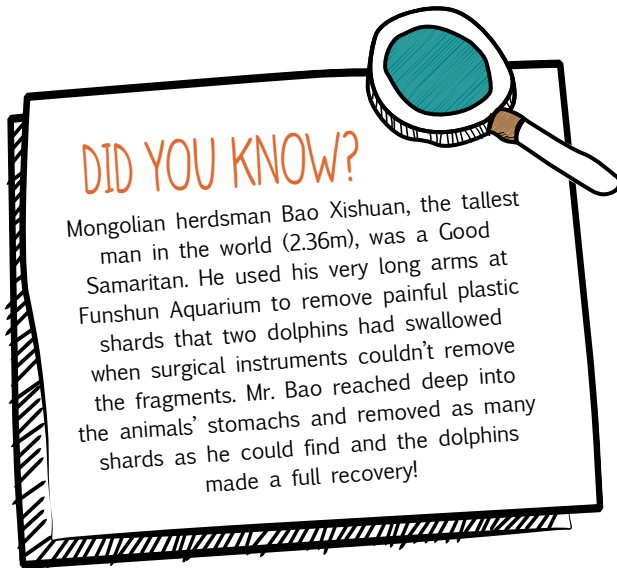
Luke 10:25-37, My First Message
©Eugene Petersen, NavPress, 1993

WEEK NINE

EXPLORE

- What makes you want to help someone?
- What makes you want to walk past or ignore someone who needs help?
- Why do you think the different people chose to help or not to help the traveller who was beaten up?

The Jews didn't like the Samaritans and the Samaritans didn't like the Jews. It would be expected that a Jew would help a Jew (like the Priest and Levite) and a Samaritan would not help a Jew. This story was all upside down in who was and was not helping each other!



- Are there some people you don't think we need to help?
- What does Jesus' story say about that?
- When it is hard for us to be loving?

God helps us when we need to do what we think we can't do.

Love means stopping to do the right thing when it would be easier to walk on by.

GAME

- Put a small drink of water, a cracker and a plaster/ band aid out on the table for each child.
- Each child takes a turn to run to the water/cracker table, eat ALL the cracker, drink the cup of water, unwrap the band aid, stick it on their arm or leg, then run back for the next player to do the same.
- Time each child or set it up as a race. (Use a party favour, hooter or whistle to add a bit of drama to the start of each person's run!)
- Continue until everyone has had a turn.
- The fastest child takes the treat out of the Faith Box to share with everyone.

“ YOU CAN GIVE WITHOUT LOVING, BUT YOU CANNOT LOVE WITHOUT GIVING. ”

- AMY CARMICHAEL -

PRAY

- Take paper and pens from the Faith Box. Draw an outline around your hand and write or draw something loving you can do this week on each of the five fingers. When you are finished, share what you have done and put the hands in the middle of the table. Then all hold hands and ask God to help you live out this kind of loving this week.
- Place the hands somewhere visible that will remind you all to be loving.

LIVE

- Make a 'Blessings Jar' – when someone does something kind or loving this week, write it down or draw it on a piece of paper and put it in the jar. Pick a time when you can open the jar together and share these notes.



OTHER IDEAS

- Watch the Veggie Tales DVD “Are You My Neighbour? The Story of Flibber-o-loo (The Good Samaritan)” and talk about it afterwards (e.g. why wouldn't the mayor and the doctor stop and help Larry? What could they have done? Who did help Larry? How can we help others?)
- Everyone think of a secret mission you could do this week that would bless someone (e.g. at lunchtime, sit with someone who doesn't have any friends).
- Read “Ten for Dinner” by Jo-Ellen Bogart or “Tarore and her Book” by Joy Cowley.
- Explore together the lives of some modern day Good Samaritans (Mother Theresa, Hasan Askari, Julien Duret, etc.).

CHECK OUT WHAT YOU
NEED FOR NEXT WEEK...

