

# CONNECTING FAITH AND LIFE

KIDS & YOUTH STUDY GUIDE | FEBRUARY 24



## KEY POINT

Samaritans were looked down upon and avoided. The Israelites would have nothing to do with them. Yet, in this story, a Samaritan is the only one who stops to help an Israelite in need. Jesus tells his listeners to follow the example of the Samaritan.



## SHARE

Highs & Lows

## READ

Luke 10:25-37 (Storybook Bible page 360)

## DISCUSS THE STORY

### Younger Students.

- Who showed kindness to the hurt man?
  - *The Samaritan*
- How did the Samaritan show kindness?
  - *By wrapping him in bandages, taking him to an inn, and paying for his stay*
- Was it easy or hard for the Samaritan to show love to the man who was his enemy? Why?
- Is it easy or hard to show love and kindness to others and follow Jesus? Why?
- Can you think of a time in your life when you someone helped you when you least expected it? What happened?

### Older Students

- What does it mean to show mercy to others?
  - *When we show someone mercy we show kindness and compassion. Typically we show mercy to someone who we might think is an enemy.*
- How did the Samaritan show mercy?
  - *By taking care of the man and helping him heal; by paying for him to stay at the inn*
- Was it easy or hard for the Samaritan to show love to the man who was his enemy? Why?
- Is it easy or hard to show love and mercy to others and follow Jesus? Why?
- When has someone who you least expected reached out to help you?
- How do you show acts of love and mercy toward those who are your rivals?

## ACTIVITIES

See below and the attached sheets for activities

## PRAY

Dear God, thank you for loving us. Thank you for showing us kindness and love. Help us to show kindness and love to other people, and help us love you more everyday. Amen

## BLESS

Mark the sign of the cross and say "Jesus loves you!"

## Who Shows Mercy

Think about those who show us love and kindness.

*Supplies: Bible, Photos of people who show love, kindness, and mercy, paper, markers*

**Say:** In Bible times Samaritans were looked down upon and avoided. The Israelites would have nothing to do with them. Today we heard a story about a Samaritan who helped an Israelite. He showed how he loved God and loved others by being kind.

**Say:** I know many people who love others by being kind, too!

**Do:** Share each of the photos. For each photo, explain who the person is and how they have shown people love and kindness.

**Say:** Sometimes, we use the word "mercy" to describe how someone loves another person. When someone shows mercy, they show kindness and love.

**Ask:** Who are some of the people who love you and show you mercy?

*Parents, grandparents, friends, siblings, teachers, etc*

**Do:** Have students draw pictures of what it means to care for others.

# Who Shows Mercy Images



## **Helping Hands** (We will do this throughout the evening... each class adding more handprints)

Consider ways you can serve God and Others

*Supplies: mural paper, markers or crayons*

**Say:** In today's story, we are reminded that we can love God and others. One way we can do this is by serving people!

**Ask:** What are some ways that people in the story loved God and loved others by serving them?

*Answers will vary, but may include: the Samaritan took care of the hurt man*

**Say:** There are many ways we can love God and love others by serving them. Let's share some ways we can serve others.

**Do:** Instruct students to trace one of their handprints on the mural paper (may need to help younger students). Tell them to spread out as we are going to add to them throughout the evening.

**Do:** On the inside of a handprint have students write either a way they can serve God or a way in which they can serve another person.

**Do:** Have the students share what they wrote.

## **Do Not Look**

*Supplies: stuffed animal, blanket*

**Before Class Setup:** Hide the stuffed animal in the blanket so students do not see it on their way in.

**Ask:** Ask students to sit in a circle, facing away from everyone else.

**Do:** Once everyone is in place, set in the middle of the circle the blanket and stuffed animal.

**Do:** Have the group turn to the middle of the circle. Uncover stuff animal.

**Ask:** Take a look at this. Each of you sees it with your own unique eyes. Let's take turns identifying one thing about it that no one else sees.

*Encourage a wide variety of answers beyond just physical characteristics*

**Do:** Let each person take a turn describing one thing they cannot see. Keep asking them to come up with something.

**Say:** We see a lot of things when we take time to look deeply. Sadly sometimes we do not even take the time to see the people around us. We cannot see Jesus, but we know a lot about him. In the story today, Jesus talks about people not seeing the people right in front of them.

**Ask:** What is it like if you need something and other people pretend not to see you?

*Allow students time to talk about this. Encourage them to consider "invisible" people like those without homes or those with mental or physical disabilities who we walk past without acknowledging.*

**Say/Ask:** Jesus reminds the disciple to see their neighbor. How can we see our neighbor more often?

*All students a moment to talk about seeing people in need*

**Say:** Jesus' reminder gives us the promise that when we really see someone, it makes a big difference in their life.

## **Bandage Relay**

*Supplies: rolls of bandages*

**Say/Ask:** Today we heard the story of the Good Samaritan. How does the Samaritan help the hurt man in the story?

*He helps him heal by bandaging his wounds and taking him to an inn.*

**Do:** Split the class into 2 teams. Have each team line up in a single-file line at one end of the room.

**Do:** Ask for one volunteer from each team to stand on the opposite side of the room. Place a pile of bandages next to each volunteer.

**Say/Do:**

- At my signal, the first person in line must walk to the opposite side of the room and wrap the volunteer with the bandage for 10 seconds. After 10 seconds, call "time"
- The person must come back and tag the next person in line.
- Once tagged the next person must walk to the volunteer and wrap them with the bandage for 10 seconds.
- Then go back and tag the next person in line.

**How to Win:** Play continues until each person has rolled the bandage onto their teammate.

**More time:** Switch up the volunteers and play again.

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HIGH SCHOOL GUIDESHEET | FEBRUARY 24



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## SHARE

Highs & Lows

## OPENING PRAYER

God, Please speak to our hearts as we contemplate your kingdom's presence in acts of service and love. Amen.

## READ

Luke 10:25-37

## DISCUSS

*Use the following questions to discuss the day's Bible passage and how it relates to your lives.*

### Understand

- How did the passerby respond to the man who had been beaten and robbed?

### Wrestle

- Why do we pick and choose to whom we will show mercy and compassion?
- What are ways we can serve in the world?
- What makes it hard to serve others?

### Share

- Share, write or draw about an experience in your life when you showed mercy and compassion or when someone showed mercy and compassion to you.

### Apply

- What will you do this week to offer mercy and compassion to those outside your immediate circle of friends?

## ACTIVITIES

*Use the attached activities to have a hands on way of sharing the message of this week's lesson.*

## PRAY

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