



THE GOOD SAMARITAN

Preschool-K • #NT14 • March 1, 2026

Concept

Jesus loves others more than He loves Himself.

Goal

The children will learn through the parable of the Good Samaritan that everyone is their neighbor. They will learn that as they receive God's love and ask for His forgiveness they will be able to love others as Jesus does.

Passage

Luke 10:25-37

Key Verse: "... love your neighbor as yourself." Luke 10:27

Planning Ahead

Lesson Supplies	Craft Supplies
<p>Activity Station:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Laminated matching "needs" cards• Ace bandages, several/class• Band-Aids, 1 box/class <p>Introduction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Triangle of fabric to make an arm sling (i.e. bandana)• Band-Aids, several/class <p>Learning Activity #2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Praise Bible, Mack Thomas• Laminated, magnet-backed pictures of:<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ 2 priests◦ Samaritan man on knees◦ Robbers◦ Victim lying down◦ Victim standing up◦ Bed	<p>Activity Station:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Printed maze, 1/child• Markers or crayons <p>Learning Activity #1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Printed page of hurt man, 1/child• Band-Aids, 3-4/child• Markers or crayons

*TEACHERS PLEASE NOTE

For clarity, the shaded areas in the Planning Ahead section indicate supplies that are in—and should be returned to—your classroom SHARED SUPPLY bag.

Background Information/Teacher Helps

Preschool-K • #NT14

“The nation of Israel was fully aware through both the words and works of Jesus Christ that He was offering Himself to Israel as their Messiah and presenting the promised and covenanted Davidic kingdom. The Old Testament had made it very clear that righteousness was a prerequisite for entrance into that kingdom. The people were sufficiently convinced by the evidence that Christ gave of the genuineness of His offer that they began to concern themselves with questions of righteousness. It must have been widely known that Christ repudiated the righteousness of the Pharisees as providing an acceptable basis for entrance into His kingdom (Matt. 5:20). Instead of Pharisaic righteousness Christ demanded perfection; He had said, “Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect” (Matt. 5:48). Scholars of the Mosaic law frequently came to Christ to ask His interpretation of the law and to discuss His concept of righteousness.”¹

“This parable, unique to Luke, requires the utmost care in its interpretation. It must neither be over allegorized, as it was by the early church fathers, nor reduced to a simplistic meaning hardly worthy of Jesus’ teaching. Above all, it must be understood in its context, with attention to the questions of v. 25 and v. 29 and to Jesus’ application in vv. 36-37...”^[2]

“... Christ was not telling the man that he would be saved by keeping the law. The man wanted to know how righteous he must be in order to enter the kingdom and what works he could do to prove that he had been made righteous. Christ in replying to his interrogation used the law lawfully. The law was primarily designed to be a revelation of the holiness of God (1 Peter 1:15-16). It also revealed the demands that God made of those who wished to be acceptable to Him and to walk in fellowship with Him (Matt. 5:48). This scholar in the law could examine the law and from the law would know that God is holy. Further, this law expert could know the demands that God’s holiness would make on those who desired to be in fellowship with Him on those who wished to be admitted to Messiah’s kingdom... It is readily evident that that knowledge did not satisfy. The man’s knowledge only brought conviction, for he sought to ‘justify himself’ (Luke 10:29)... His defense was his ignorance.”^[3]

[1] Dwight Pentecost, *The Parables of Jesus*, © 1982 by The Zondervan Corporation, p. 71.

[2] *Expositor’s Bible Commentary*, Volume 8, 1984, Zondervan Corporation, p. 942.

[3] Dwight Pentecost, *The Parables of Jesus*, © 1982 by The Zondervan Corporation, p. 73.

Set Up

Incorporation Lg. Group

Introduction Lg. Group

Lesson Lg. Group

The day of class:

- Draw a road on the white board for Learning Activity #2.
- For the Introduction, the teacher should put on the sling and several band-aids to look "hurt."

Activity Stations

- **"Needs" Card Game**
 - **Instructions:** Hand each child one of the "item" cards. Then hold up a "need" card and ask what this person needs. Have the child with that "need" card put it on the table with the "item" card. Continue until all the cards have been matched. Older children can play a type of concentration/matching game. Put all the cards face down, turn up two cards at a time and try to match the need with the item that meets the need.
- **Craft – Maze**
 - **Instructions:** Give each child a printed maze to color. Children can try to follow the maze from the top to the bottom.
- **Make-Believe – "Doctor"**
 - **Instructions:** Put out the ace bandages and band-aids. Have the children take turns "treating" each other.

What do you have to do to be God's friend? (Quickly allow a few responses.) There are some people who think that they can be God's friend if they are good. Is that right? NO, being good is not the way we become God's friend is it? If we want to be God's friend we must admit that we make bad choices and that the bad choices we make must be punished. We thank Jesus for dying on the cross to pay the punishment we deserve. That's how we become God's friends.

One day a man asked Jesus how good he had to be if he wanted to be God's friend. Jesus said to him, "... love your neighbor as yourself." But Jesus knew that the man couldn't love others as much as he loved himself. Then Jesus told the man a story to show the man what He meant.

Drama – The Good Samaritan acted out by teachers & student assistants
Instructions: As the "hurt" teacher reads the narrative below, have the other teachers and student assistants act the story out. If necessary to have enough teachers and student assistants, combine with another class for the Lesson. Turn the lights out during the story to heighten the drama. Lay down carpet squares for a road.

A man was traveling from Jerusalem to Jericho. There were some robbers waiting for him. (Have a teacher or student assistant hide, ready to attack.) When he passed by they jumped out from behind the rock. They beat him. They took his all money and they ran away.

Lesson Continued

He was hurt so bad that he couldn't walk. He couldn't even get up. He needed someone to help him. A little while later along came a man. This man thought he was very good. He thought he was good enough to be God's friend. When he saw the hurt man, what do you think he did? (Allow children to respond.) No, he didn't help the man. He went across the road and walked on the other side! He left the man lying there bleeding, without anyone to help him. So that man didn't love his neighbor as much as he loved himself, did he? But we know that Jesus loves others more than He loves Himself.

A little later, along came another man who thought he was good enough to be God's friend. What do you think he did? (Allow for responses.) Well, he did stop. And he looked at the man, but also crossed the road and walked by on the other side! So we see that this man didn't love his neighbor as much as he loved himself. But we know that Jesus loves others more than He loves Himself.

Then along came another man. This was a man that most people didn't like. He knew that he wasn't good enough to be God's friend. What do you think this man did? When he saw the hurt man he felt sorry for him and wanted to help him. So he put bandages on his wounds. And he even gave him something to drink. And do you know what he did after that? He picked him up and put him on his donkey. He walked along side the donkey to an inn. He carried the man into the inn, paid for a room for the man and put the hurt man in bed. He washed all the dirt off the man and rubbed his sore muscles. And then the next day he gave the innkeeper some money and asked him to take care of the hurt man until he returned. Now that man loved His neighbor, didn't he?!

But do you know what? Even that man wasn't good enough to be God's friend. That man did love his neighbor as much as he loved himself. But even if we were to ALWAYS love other people as much as we love ourselves we still couldn't be God's friend. Only Jesus loves others more than He loves Himself because only Jesus is perfect.

So if only Jesus loves others more than He loves Himself, how can we be good enough to be His friends? I'll tell you a secret. We CAN'T ever be good enough to be God's friend. That's why Jesus came to earth to take the punishment for all our sins. Jesus died on the cross for each of us so we can be God's friends. If we tell Him we know we don't always love our neighbor as ourselves and we are even mean to other people, then tell Him we want Him to forgive us for all our bad choices, He will forgive us and be our friend.

Let's pray and thank Jesus that He loves us so much. Let's ask Him to help us love others as much as we love ourselves.

Transition

Learning Activity#1 Lg. Group

Learning Activity#2 Lg. Group

Learning Activity#3 Sm. Groups

Let's do a craft now to remind us that only Jesus loves others more than He loves Himself. We can never be good enough to be His friend, but if we ask Jesus to forgive us, He will be our friend and help us love others.

Craft – Bandage the Hurt Man

- **Instructions:** Give each child a printed picture of the hurt man. Have them color the man and add band-aids to bandage his wounds.

Dramatic Play – “The Man Who Helped”

- **Instructions:** As you read the story on pages 340-348 of The Praise Bible, have the children act out the story using the laminated figures and the road drawn on the white board. Children may even want to act the story out themselves.

What did the first two men who walked by the hurt man do? Did they help him? They did not love their neighbor as much as they loved themselves. The third man felt sorry for the hurt man and did help him. What about you? Do you love your neighbor as much as yourself? Can you think of anything you have done that shows you love your neighbor? Jesus is the only one who always loves everyone as much as himself. He loves us so much that He died on the cross for our sins. If we tell Him we know we don't always love our neighbor as ourselves, then tell Him we want Him to forgive us for all our bad choices, He will forgive us and be our friend. Let's pray.