

WNA Lesson 1-The Good Samaritan-**January 27, 2021**

INFORMATION FOR THE FAMILY MEMBER TEACHING THE LESSON:

BOTTOM LINE: God wants us to love others - no matter who, no matter when.

OBJECTIVE: Family members will learn that thinking of others ahead of ourselves is really important to God.

KEY PASSAGE: Luke 10:25-37, Parable of the Good Samaritan

MEMORY VERSE: "Then Jesus said, "Whoever has ears should listen.'" Mark 4:9 (NirV) This is a great time to show your child how to find the book, chapter and verse in the Bible!

The Lesson:

OPEN THE LESSON WITH THIS SIMPLE PRAYER: Dear God, Help us to be on the lookout for people who need our help. In Jesus' name. Amen

BIBLE LESSON: (if your children are under age 6, you'll want to shorten the lesson below by highlighting only the most important points)

ITEMS NEEDED: BIBLE

OBJECTIVE: Family members will learn that thinking of others ahead of ourselves is really important to God.

KEY PASSAGE: Luke 10:25-37, Parable of the Good Samaritan

INTRO: What is a Good Samaritan? That's a question almost anyone can answer even if they've never been to church. A Good Samaritan is a person who stops to help a stranger. They interrupt their schedule, stop what they're doing, and lend a hand where it's needed. Maybe you've seen one or two Good Samaritans in action. Maybe our car blows a tire on the highway, and someone in a truck pulls over to help change a tire. An elderly person struggles to load their car with groceries, and a teenager races over to lend a hand. Good Samaritans are caring. They don't hesitate to leap into action. They save the day! That's what a Good Samaritan is to us.

That's not how the first people who heard this saw it. Without going into detail, let's just say that Samaritans and Jews did not get along. Jews would walk miles out of their way to avoid walking through Samaria, and Samaritans kept their distance from the Jews as well. There was no such thing as a Good Samaritan to the people who followed Jesus because in their minds, all Samaritans were BAD! When we know the bitterness between the Jews and the Samaritans, it makes the Parable (a story Jesus would tell to teach a lesson) of the Good Samaritan all the more powerful. This is the parable where Jesus shows us what it costs us to truly love our neighbor.

READ LUKE 10:25-37 OR refer back to the video if your children are under age 6

MAIN POINT: A man was robbed and in need of help. Two men of God, a priest and a Levite, saw the man and walked on by. Then a Samaritan came by. Of these three men, the Samaritan is the one least likely to lend a hand, but that's exactly what he does.

The Samaritan refuses to let his differences with the wounded man and his people deter him. He bandaged his wounds, he takes him to safety, and he pays the innkeeper to help with his recovery. Loving your neighbor, even if it's someone who disagrees with you, is what the message of this parable is about. Taking time out of our day and going out of our way to help other, that's what the lesson tells us to do!

Close with this prayer: Dear God, Help us to be on the lookout for people who need our help. In Jesus' name, Amen

THIS WEEK:

Make the lesson real: Do you have any Good Samaritan stories of strangers who helped you? Share one with your family this week and look for an opportunity to be a Samaritan family.

If you see someone in need and there is a safe way to help them, show your child by example how to be a good Samaritan.

AT DINNER: Here are some great discussion starters: Why did the Samaritan help a man who might not have been someone he got along with? Why is it important to God that we help others in need?

AT BEDTIME: Pray this simple prayer: Dear God, Help us to be on the lookout for people who need our help. In Jesus' name, Amen