Lesson 11—We Show Our Creator Love When We Help



Luke 10:25-37

Memory Verse

"He who gives to the poor will not lack, but he who hides his eyes will have many curses" (Proverbs 28:27)

Teacher's Objective

At the end of the session, the students should be able to:

Define the term *neighbor*

Locate Jerusalem and Jerico on a map

Describe how we should be willing to help anyone who needs help

Express in their own words how it pleases God when we help others

Materials Needed

See "Teaching Activities" for specific activities

Teacher's Bible Study

The law of God as revealed in the Bible is a good, right, and perfect system of eternal directives and principles which reflects God's character. It serves as a means of expressing His love toward man. God's law teaches man how to properly worship God, how to love his fellow man, how to live life abundantly, and, at the same time, how to prepare for an eternal spiritual life in the family of God. The law of god is represented in both the Old and the New Testaments and is expressed by both physical actions and spiritual motivations.

God is love. That is His nature and essence (I John 4:8). It is only from God that we can learn what real and perfect love is. A great deal depends on the guidance of His Holy Spirit, but God's love is essentially expressed and taught through His law (Romans 13:10; I John 5:3). It is the major vehicle by which His love has been made known to mankind.

If we human beings had the love that God has—perfect, complete, and limit-less love—we would have no need of an external moral law (though we should still need God to reveal to us His Sabbath, holy days, spiritual meanings, ceremonial laws, etc.). If human beings had the full knowledge of love plus the full power to express the love that God has, there should be no need of external guidelines or codified statements or definitions or examples of any kind: We would always express love to its full extent. But we are not God, and we do not have the perfect love which is exemplified in Him. Human beings must learn love. Christians must grow toward that absolute embodiment of love of which all fall so short.

How can one know love unless he is taught what it is and how it works? Ultimately, it is learned by practice. Yet before one can practice it, there must be some sort of beginning. The various aspects of God's law in the Bible are designed to give a start to the individual. These aspects then lead him to greater and greater understanding of this concept until he learns to live by internalized spiritual motivations which, while no longer adequately expressible in human words, impel him to continue to fulfill the objective of God's law which is love at the highest plane.

The concept of love can be epitomized, albeit inadequately, in the following statement: Love is both wholehearted worship toward God and outgoing concern for one's fellow man equal to the natural concern for self. This is seen in Matthew 22 where Jesus says that the great commandment in the law is to "Love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt *love* thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets" (verses 36–40).

Teaching our children to help is a way of showing love toward God and toward our fellow man. As stated earlier, we must teach this virtue; it will not just happen. To prepare for this week's lesson, read the following stories which tell about helping: Luke 10:25–37; Mark 1:40–2:12; I Thessalonians 2; and Galatians 6:1–10.

Presenting the Bible Story

Samaritans were disliked by the Jews. They were considered a mix race, not Israelites Jesus had been ministering in Galilee for two years. Jesus had done many miracles and taught numerous lessons. In this story, a lawyer tried to trick Jesus. He asked Jesus, "How can I inherit eternal life?" What was the real motivation for the lawyer asking this question? There are two points to this story: (1) We should help those in need; (2) the outcast of the Jews, a Samaritan, was the only one who helped. Contrast that to Jesus. He was the outcast one, but the only one that was concerned about helping people.

Luke 10:25

A lawyer was an expert in explaining God's law. The lawyer did call Jesus "Rabbi." However, this was like calling Jesus "Teacher." The lawyer's question was not sincere, and we know this because the scripture says the lawyer stood up and "tested Him."

Luke 10:26-29

Notice how Jesus answered the lawyer with a question. The lawyer then quotes Scripture (Deuteronomy 6:5; Leviticus 19:18). Does the man then ask how he goes about loving his neighbor? No. He wants to know who his neighbor is.

Luke 10:30

Jesus answered the lawyer with a parable. It is approximately seventeen miles from Jerusalem to Jericho. It is a winding, steep climb.

The Jericho Road was also known as "The Way of Blood"

Who stopped to help the wounded man? Not the priest who did sacrifices in the Temple. Not the Levite who assisted the priest. The Samaritan, whose people were despised by the Jews because their race, was Gentile and Jewish. The Good Samaritan did more than just help the wounded man to the inn; he paid for all expenses. He left money with the innkeeper and promised to return and pay any additional expenses incurred by the innkeeper for the nursing of the wounded man.

Luke 10:31-37

The inn was by no means luxurious. Inns during Bible times were not like we have today. Their purpose was first and foremost to protect you from the environment. Some inns did not even have innkeepers.

What was the inn like that the Good Samaritan took the wounded man to?

Teaching Activities

Art and Activities

Activity Pages

Provide a copy of the Activity Page suitable for each of your students. Provide pencils and crayons.

Art Activity

Do a class project to put up in the classroom. Or make small individual sock kites for each student to take home. Write on the sock construction paper "Helping Shows Love." Fold the ends of the construction paper together to make a sock circle, glue the ends. Glue colorful tissue strips to the bottom of the construction paper circle.

Explore the Subject

Explore the following questions with your students:

- 1. Who was a neighbor to the lawyer—only someone that was Jewish?
- 2. Do you think it was easy for the lawyer to admit that the Samaritan was the good neighbor? (No.)

- 3. Why? (Because the Samaritans were looked upon as an inferior people because they were a mixed race)
- 4. Is it easy to show love to your enemies or those who are different than you?
- 5. What are the characteristics of racial hatred? (Pride, hate, lies.)
- 5. Is it easy to show love to your friends?

Respond and Reinforce

Always close your class with prayer

- 1. Is it important that we love and help all people regardless of their race?
- 2. Discuss memory verse.

Good Samaritan Luke 10:25-37

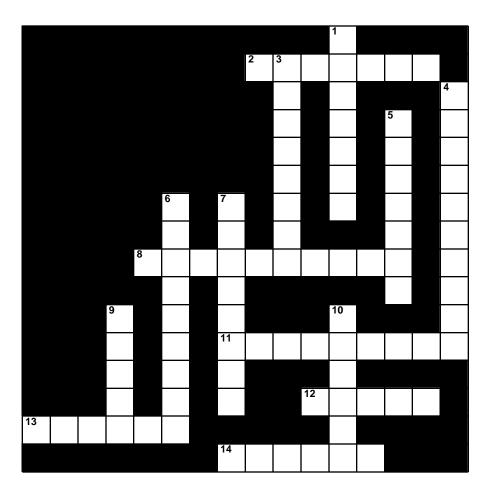
Read the Scriptures. Find the words hidden in the word search puzzle below.

I	E	J	A	P	L	W	S	D	L	K	Y
I	I	R	M	Н	E	O	T	O	A	C	S
N	S	R	T	M	V	U	E	P	R	E	R
N	E	A	A	Q	I	N	E	E	F	Ο	D
K	S	J	M	N	T	D	M	T	В	P	D
E	P	L	E	A	E	E	T	Н	В	A	Y
E	A	E	L	R	R	D	G	R	I	C	Е
P	Y	V	Ο	A	I	I	O	R	N	W	N
Е	M	I	V	R	E	C	T	W	D	N	R
R	Н	Н	E	N	M	E	Н	A	T	I	U
D	S	R	E	В	В	O	R	O	N	В	O
A	R	D	T	S	Е	Ι	R	P	S	C	J

ROBBERS	SAMARITAN	JERICHO
DEAD	INN KEEPER	JOURNEY
PRIEST	MERCY	LOVE
NEIGHBOR	BIND	TWO
LEVITE	WOUNDED	DENARII

The Mercy of the Good Samaritan Luke 10:25–37

Read the Scriptures and complete the crossword puzzle below.



Across

- 2. those who steal.
- 8. He went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring in _____ (see Luke 10:34; two words).
- 11. A person who voluntarily offers help or sympathy in times of trouble.
- 12. Kindly compassion shown to offenders.
- 13. A professional person authorized to practice law.
- 14. A member, or descendent, of the tribe of Levi.

Down

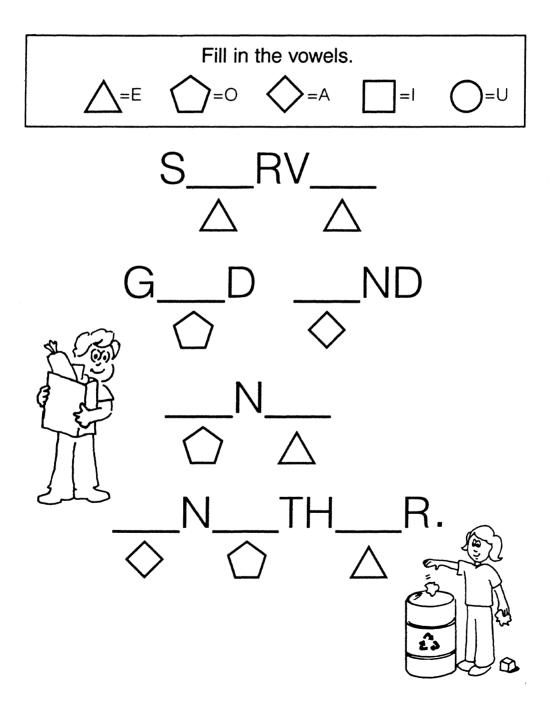
1. The man in story was attacked on the road to _____ (see Luke 10:30).

- 3. The thieves left the man _____ (see Luke 10:30).
- 4. A deep sorrow and understanding for someone experiencing misfortune or calamity.
- 5. Impaired, damaged, or suffering.
- 6. A fellow human being (Old English spelling—see Luke 10:36).
- 7. Religious believer in the time of Christ who taught strict adherence to the Law, but constantly missed the spiritual intent of the Law.
- 9. Showing great kindness toward the distressed.
- 10. A person whose office requires him to perform religious rites and offerings.

6. Neighbour; 7. Pharisee; 9. Mercy; 10. Priest.

We Show Love When We Help

Jesus taught that anyone who wants to become great must do something. What?



We Show Love When We Help

The word neighbor in the verse doesn't only mean a person who lives next door to you.

Who is your neighbor?

Using the letters of "neighbor," write the name of people you should be a "neighbor" to. Write a different name on each line.

The letter can appear anywhere in the name.

Example: FRED