

THE GOOD SAMARITAN

The scene shows that a helping neighbour can come in unexpected ways and that compassion is often found in the least likely of places.

Theme: Kindness and forgiveness

Cast:



Narrator (N)



Man



Thug 1



Thug 2



Thug 3



Natasha



Businessman



Sid



Paramedics/
doctor

Props: coffee cup, half-eaten muffin, mobile phone, doctor's case.

Bible Reference: Luke 10

Performance notes:

You may want to start with the Narrator at the front on either side.

It will help if the Man comes from the back of the room when he enters and makes his way to the front whilst singing. Natasha, Businessman and Sid should follow in his footsteps and exit towards the back. The Thugs and Paramedics can enter from either side.

The Good Samaritan

Written by Claire Brine



Narrator One day, a man was walking from his workplace in Jerusalem to his home in Jericho.



Man *(singing - tune of 'Oh what a beautiful morning' from Oklahoma)*

Oh what a beautiful evening! It's been a beautiful day!
I've got a beautiful feeling, everything's going my way...



N And it was! With chai latte in one hand and lemon poppy seed muffin in the other, all was well with the world.

At home, the Times cryptic crossword waited for him, as did his new garden furniture, which he was looking forward to trying out for the first time. Our happy chappy was so happy that he just couldn't resist singing about it.

Man *(singing - tune of 'I Feel Pretty' from West Side Story)*

I feel happy, oh so happy,
Oh so happy and clappy and briiiiight!
And I pity any man who isn't me tonight...

N But... things didn't stay quite so great for quite so long. You see, just as our happy chappy was enjoying a quiet stroll through the park, he was set upon by a bunch of pesky kids.

Thug 1 Look at that old dude, humming and skipping along!



Thug 2 What's he got to be so happy about?



Thug 3 Let's wipe that smile off his face!



N So, for no good reason, the gang of greasy oiks beat up our happy chappy to within an inch of his life.
(Thugs beat him up).
Then, to add further insult to injury... they took his chai latte and lemon poppy seed muffin and ran off.



Man Nooooooooooooooooo!!!

N As our happy chappy lay on the floor, close to death *(Man screams in pain...)*, and feeling very sad *(sobbing wails)* he didn't think it was such a beautiful morning any more.

Man *(singing - tune of 'Nobody knows the troubles I've seen' by Louis Armstrong)*
Nobody knows the troubles I've seen,
Nobody knows my sorrow...

N He laid there for ages... and ages.

Man *(plaintively)* Heeeeeeeeeelp meeeeeeee!

N But no one came. Until... what luck! A respectable citizen walked by.

Natasha *(Enters. Speaks to audience in a posh accent)*
Hi, I'm Nataaaaasha and I'm fabulously rich.



Because of my great wealth, I see it as my responsibility to help others who are less fortunate than me, so three years ago I started volunteering for charity. Everyone should do their bit to help others, that's my motto. It's so rewarding to know that I'm making a difference to the needy.



N As she was walking along, Natasha...

Natasha It's 'Nataaaaasha'.

N Nataaaaasha came across our injured, not-so-happy chappy.

Natasha Oh my goodness, how frightful! What on earth has happened here?
Listen, I would help, but I'm on my way to a charity dinner and this is a brand new suit. It cost me an arm and a leg so I wouldn't want to get it ruined. And I'm sure I wouldn't be able to lift you on my own anyway. You look like you've had more than your fair share of pasties. So it's probably best if I leave you for someone else. It's a busy road, I'm sure they'll be someone along very soon. Hold tight, old chap. Toodlepip.

N So Nataaaaasha scurried off. *(Natasha exits).*

Man *(Sits up)*
Great help she was!
(Lies back down)

N Then, a second respectable-looking citizen came along, but he barely noticed our injured friend.



Businessman

(Enters and talks constantly on mobile phone)
So once the merger goes through, we're hoping to be in a position to create a hundred new jobs, which would be fantastic! Not only for people living in the town, of course, but it'll also be great for the company's image, to be seen as caring and wholesome and...



(steps over man and keeps walking)
Yes, exactly! We just need to keep our eyes open and look for more opportunities to show it. Anyway I'll talk to you again soon. Ta-raaa. *(Exits).*

N Turns out respectable citizen number two was just as useless as respectable citizen number one. Our not-so-happy chappy was beginning to feel hopeless and desperate. What was he going to do?

Man Isn't it obvious? I'm going to DIE! I can't hang on much longer!

N Just as all was looking lost, a NOT-so-respectable looking citizen rolled up. *(Enter Sid)*
His name was Sid. Now... how can I describe Sid? Well, Sid was a bit of a geezer. Sid had piercings and tattoos, bad breath and wore a sinister-looking hoodie. Wherever Sid went, drama tended to follow. Would you say that's fair, Sid?

Sid Yep. Spot on.

N But, unbeknown to many, Sid also had a heart of gold. He loved people. And when he saw our not-so-happy chappy fighting for his life, he stepped in to help.



Sid Flippin' 'eck, what's happened here?

(Crouches down to man)

You all right, pal?

(Man tries to move)

Hang on, don't move, I'll call for an ambulance. And don't you worry; I'll come with you to make sure you're all right. You just stay still.



N The ambulance arrived
(Paramedics enter)
and took our happy chappy to the hospital.
(They carry injured man off)
While he was receiving treatment, Sid had a word with one of the doctors.

Sid Look - err - is he going to be all right? I want to make sure he's in the best possible hands, you see. You do whatever it takes to make him better. And when he's ready to leave, just give me a call. I'll make sure he gets home OK.

N The doctor assured Sid that they would do their very best for the injured man, and thanked him for his kindness.

(Sid and Doctor exit)

That night, as our happy chappy laid in his hospital bed, he couldn't help but say a little prayer.

He thanked God for keeping him alive when he was so close to death.

He thanked God for the hospital staff, who were taking such good care of him.

And lastly, he thanked God for Sid, vowing that as soon as he was well enough, he was going to treat his good neighbour to a chai latte and lemon poppy seed muffin. Extra-large, of course. *(pause)*
And Jesus said: 'Which one was the true neighbour?'