

# A lesson for a teacher of the law

**Bible verses:**

Luke 10:25-37

The Good Samaritan

**Aim:**

To be challenged by Jesus' story of kindness

**Today's fruit:**

Kindness



In today's story we discover the importance of loving others, especially those we are unsure of or may not like.

Jesus loved to tell stories. He would often use them to help the people understand more about God and the way he wants us to live our lives. We will also think about the kindness shown by the Good Samaritan and how Jesus wants us to show that kindness to others.

Kindness is shown in the way Jesus' parable shows us who and how to love.

## Each child will need:

- A sheet of A4 card/paper – have a range of flesh-coloured card/paper for the children to choose from
- Red card and pale coloured paper (both optional), scissors, glue and pens/pencils
- *Explore It ideas* handout

## You will need:

- *World Book Day Rap* poster
- Today's fruit sign: *Kindness*
- *Luke 10:27* poster



## Start it

**Say:**

Back in March schools across the country celebrated World Book Day.



**Ask:**

- Do you remember how your school celebrated World Book Day?
- Did you all get dressed up? If so, what did you wear?

**Say:**

On World Book Day every child receives a voucher to spend in a bookshop. The voucher can be spent on a special £1 World Book Day book or help purchase a more expensive book.

**Ask:**

- Did you receive a voucher?
- What did you spend it on?
- What is your favourite book? Why do you love it so much?

**Say:**

To start off our session today we're going to join in a rap that is full of amazing children's stories. See if you can spot your favourite.

The rap includes lots of different stories that the children will know. As an extra activity, or for the older children, they could jot down all the stories they notice in the clip. Although it is not World Book Day this month, the song highlights the importance of stories.

The rap repeats the following chorus:

'Wowza ... I just found this voucher! Huh!  
Let me take a closer look!  
HmMMM!  
It says I get a free book.  
No wayyyyy ... No way! Yep!  
And I'm already hooked.  
It's World Book Day and I'm on my way to go and get a book!  
Go!  
MC Grammar

**[worldbookday.com](http://worldbookday.com)**

Display the *World Book Day Rap* poster for the children to follow. If they were involved in Young Voices 23-24, they should already know the rap.

After the clip has finished, discuss with the children the importance of stories in our lives. They are so important that the whole country dedicates a day to celebrating amazing stories. Make the link that Jesus used storytelling to help us understand his teaching.

## Video

***The World Book Day song*** by MC Grammar (3:02)

## Sing it

Display the *Kindness* sign.

### Say:

In today's story the Good Samaritan shows kindness to a complete stranger. Kindness is a fruit of the Spirit that God can grow in each one of us. Our song reminds us to share the kindness of Jesus with others.

### Song

'Give a little kindness' by ChattHillsKids (3:14)

## Tell it

### Say:

Our story for today is found in Luke's Gospel. Jesus was teaching the people when he was asked an important question by a teacher of the law.

### Read:

'Then a teacher of the law stood up. He was trying to test Jesus. He said, "Teacher, what must I do to get life for ever?"

'Jesus said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?"

'The man answered, "Love the Lord your God. Love him with all your heart, all your soul, all your strength, and all your mind." Also, "You must love your neighbour as you love yourself."

'Jesus said to him, "Your answer is right. Do this and you will have life for ever."

'But the man wanted to show that the way he was living was right. So he said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbour?"'

(Luke 10:25-29 ICB)

### Ask:

Why did the teacher of the law ask Jesus a question?

### Say:

The Bible says that the teacher of the law was trying to test Jesus. We often like having a baddie in a story and it's easy to assume that the teacher of the law was trying to catch Jesus out.



## **Say:**

That might have been part of the reason he asked Jesus the question, but it's important to understand that Jesus was teaching ideas that had never been heard before. The main focus of being a good Jew was to carefully follow the religious laws, and so the teacher of the law really wanted to know if he was doing the right thing.

## **Video**

**God's Story: *The Good Samaritan*** by Crossroads Kids' Club (3:50)

**Watch: 0:00-1:26** 'You might expect a priest who was supposed to serve God to help, but he didn't stop.'

## **Say:**

Jesus shared a story about a dangerous road that everyone listening would have known about. He often told stories, known as parables, that helped the people understand what he was trying to say.

## **Ask:**

- Who was the first person to pass by the injured man?
- How would you expect a religious man to respond to someone who needed help?
- As part of his role in the Temple, the priest had to follow strict rules to avoid uncleanness. Do you think this could have been part of the reason he didn't help the injured man? If so, was this OK? Explain your answer.

## **Say:**

The next person to arrive on the scene was a Levite who also had an important role in the Temple. He would have been responsible for tasks like organising or taking part in singing in the Temple. He may have helped to guard the Temple and help in its day-to-day running. Surely, he would stop to help the injured man! Let's watch the clip to find out.

**Watch: 1:27-1:40** 'Levites were assistants to priests, so maybe you'd expect them to help too, but he didn't stop either.'

## **Ask:**

- What do you think about two religious people leaving the injured man on the roadside? How does it make you feel?
- What other reasons may they have had for passing by?
- How do you feel about the choice they made?

**Watch: 1:41-2:59** 'And that's the story of the Good Samaritan.'

## **Ask:**

- How did the Jews and Samaritans feel about each other?
- What did the Good Samaritan do to help the injured man?

**Say:**

In our society there are groups of people who dislike each other. This can cause tension and unrest. The Good Samaritan saw past all of the hatred and decided to make a difference in the life of the injured Jewish man.

**Say:**

When people in the world show hatred to each other, it can be difficult to imagine that there will ever be peace. In this story Jesus shows us that it is possible to show kindness to those we dislike or distrust. Through him, it is possible for us to show the kindness of Jesus to the world.

**Read:**

**‘Then Jesus said, “Which one of these three men do you think was a neighbour to the man who was attacked by the robbers?”**

**‘The teacher of the law answered, “The one who helped him.”**

**Jesus said to him, “Then go and do the same thing he did!”**

(Luke 10:36-37 *ICB*)

**Ask:**

- Do you think it is possible for us to show the kindness of Jesus to those we dislike or distrust? If so, how?
- Who could you show kindness to this week?

**Say:**

At times it may feel impossible to show kindness to people that we don't like. Our memory verse reminds us that God can help us to make the impossible, possible.

**Memory verse**

**‘Jesus looked straight at them and answered, “This is impossible for human beings, but not for God; everything is possible for God.”**

(Mark 10:27 *GNB*)

**Say:**

As Christians today we have the Holy Spirit to help us in situations where it feels impossible to show kindness to someone we see as an enemy. Sunday 19 May is Pentecost, a day to remember when the Holy Spirit came to the disciples and gave them power to live like Jesus.

**Say:**

That same power is available to us today. Whenever you are struggling to show kindness to others, then ask the Holy Spirit to give you the wisdom to know what to do and say.

**Say:**

Let's recap the story of the Good Samaritan.

## Video

*God's Story: The Good Samaritan* by Crossroads Kids' Club (3:50)

## Action it

Ask the children to think about today's story. Who does God consider to be our neighbour? What does he ask us to do when our neighbour needs help? Discuss with the children the many different needs we see in this world and how, as Christians, we are called to help.

## Sticking plaster

The aim of this activity is to make a Bible verse reminder of Luke 10:27 – in the shape of a sticking plaster. See [Pinterest E280](#) for image of finished product – adapted from Messy Church.

1. Take a sheet of A4 flesh-coloured card or paper and fold it in half lengthways. Cut along the fold line so there are two strips of card.
2. Take one strip of card and fold it in half. Draw a large rectangle in the middle to represent the pad underneath the plaster.
3. In the middle of the rectangle, over the centre fold, draw a heart and colour it in, or glue on a heart cut from red paper/card. Decorate the ends of the plaster with dots.
4. Cut along the folded line in the middle, right through the heart.
5. Place the two shorter strips of card on top of the longer strip, so the heart lines up in the middle. Glue the short strips to the longer strip at the ends, making sure that the shorter strips can open up in the middle, like a flap.
6. In the middle of the card write, 'Love your neighbour as you love yourself.' (Luke 10:27) Children may wish to write this on paler paper and glue it in.

Display the *Luke 10:27* poster for the children to copy inside their sticking plaster.

## Pray it

### Say:

In Bible times Jews and Samaritans were brought up to dislike each other, simply because of the group they belonged to and their history. It didn't matter what the person was like, it only mattered that they were a Jew or a Samaritan.

### Ask:

- What examples can you think of in our society today, where people dislike each other

because of the group they belong to?

- What could the story of the Good Samaritan teach the world about kindness?

Based on the discussion points from the children, encourage them to write a prayer on the back of their sticking plaster. They could recognise a group of people or a person they have not been kind to and ask God to help them to do better in the future. Alternatively, they could pray for their local community asking God to bring his kindness into these situations.

Share the prayers together and then remind the children that God is in every situation they face or see in their local communities.

Sing 'He's got the whole world in his hands' to remind the children of God's presence in this world and bring the session to a close.

## Song

'He's got the whole world in his hands' by Lifetree Kids (2:20)

## Explore it

Remember to send home the *Explore It ideas* for children and families.



## A lesson for a teacher of the law

Here are some ideas for you to explore at home.



### Bible verses:

Luke 10:25-37

The Good Samaritan



### Aim:

To be challenged by Jesus' story of kindness



### Today's fruit:

Kindness



### Pray

In this week's session you may have realised that there are people in the world that you dislike or distrust simply because of a group they belong to. You may also see examples of this in your school or local community. Take time to ask God to fill those situations with his kindness through you. Ask him to help you to show kindness to others.



### Discover

Watch the clip with someone at home. Share with them what you learned about the story in your *Explore It* session and discuss what you discovered from the clip.

**Good Samaritan - Let's Go** - by Crossroads Kids' Club



### Song for the week

'Give a little kindness' by ChattHillsKids



### Memory verse

'Jesus looked straight at them and answered, "This is impossible for human beings, but not for God; everything is possible for God."'

(Mark 10:27 GNB)

**LIVING  
OUT FAITH**

*Kids Alive!* Online - [salvationarmy.org.uk/kidsalive](http://salvationarmy.org.uk/kidsalive)

*Kids Alive!* The UK's only weekly Christian comic - is filled with jokes, competitions, Bible-based cartoons and much more... and is now available to read online!



Children  
& Youth

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about kindness



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## Memory verse

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(Mark 10:27 *GNB*)



## Sing It

**'Great big God!' Vineyard Kids**, Vineyard Worship UK and Ireland (2:51)

**'Jesus song'** by Saddleback Kids (2:45)  
This song tells us about the amazing thing Jesus did.



## Start it

Do you remember a time when you fell and were hurt? Who helped you? What did they do to help?

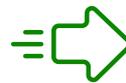


## Tell it

Share a child-friendly version of Luke 10:25-37.

Sit in a circle and ask the group to share together:

- Do you have a favourite story?
- How do stories make us feel?
- Why did Jesus share lots of stories?
- What is the most kind action someone has done for you today?
- I wonder how we can be kind to one another today?



## Action it

Games and activities to reinforce the Bible passage:

- Act out helping people up who are hurt or injured
- Mime wrapping wounds with bandages
- Wrap up an adult in a toilet roll as quickly as you can
- Find something you can share (a drink or biscuit) and bring it back to the group to tell us who it is for