Lesson B3.3 - Help Those in Need



Teacher's Pages with Step-by-Step Lesson Plan

For Lower Elementary Students and Classes

Recommended for students in Preschool, Kindergarten, and Grades 1-2.

Quick Facts for the Teacher

Lesson Summary: Luke 10:25-37

▶ Bible Characters: Jesus, hurt man, Good Samaritan

Jesus told the story of a man who was attacked by robbers as he travelled. Well-regarded people passed by the injured man without stopping to help. Ultimately, it was an enemy (a Samaritan) who cared for him. This is a parable about being a true neighbor and friend to someone in need.

Brief Bible Background

▶ Today's Lesson is from the New Testament

▶ Scripture Section: Parables

Wherever Jesus went, crowds would follow. Jesus taught the people as they gathered, often using simple picture-stories called parables. Jesus used everyday examples to explain to his disciples the secrets of the Kingdom of God.

For More Information

The primary role of a Sunday School teacher for Preschool, Kindergarten (pre-readers), and Early Elementary (new readers) is to simply tell children the stories of Scripture and introduce them to the major characters of the Bible.

Teachers who want to know more about the lessons for their own familiarity with the story are encouraged to read the information in the SEED Upper Elementary and Youth Teacher's Pages.

a. Classroom Greeting

Teachers should arrive 10 to 15 minutes before class and greet students and parents by name. Write the day's Bible Message on the white board or poster board for all the kids to see. Have kids gather on a rug or in a dedicated meeting space. Encourage the children to learn each other's names.

b. Opening Prayer Song

The words to this song are sung to the tune of "If You're Happy and You Know it, Clap Your Hands." No accompaniment is needed.

Lord, we praise you and we thank you for this day! (Clap clap)

Lord, we praise you and we thank you for this day! (Clap clap)

Lord, we praise you and we thank you and we're here to learn about you!

Lord, we praise you and we thank you for this day! (Clap, clap)

c. Introduction to Today's Message

*Teacher's Script (student responses are in **bold**).*

As Christians, we try to **help those in need** whenever we can. Sometimes we do it directly (for example, sharing our food). Other times we do it indirectly (giving money to a church or another group who then use it to feed the poor, etc.). Both ways can **help those in need.**

• Have *you* ever needed help before? Who helped you?

In today's story, Jesus talks about a man who was in trouble, and the surprising person who rescued him. Jesus was teaching us to do what? **Help those in need!** Let's begin our story and hear what happened**!**

d. SEED Bible Story Video

The teacher may introduce the lesson by playing the video clip from the SEED website. This may be displayed simply on a laptop computer or tablet. If the classroom is equipped with a computer video monitor or video projector, the video can be displayed in a larger size.

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e. Read the Story with Poster Pictures

The Bible Story has been divided into four parts, each with an accompanying Poster Picture. The teacher should hold up or point to the relevant Poster Picture while reading the individual part of the story, asking questions while reading.

Posters may be printed on letter-sized paper, or enlarged and printed on ledger-sized paper if a bigger printer is available. Poster pictures may also be opened as a PDF on a computer screen, scrolling through each of the four pages.



Picture 1

Tell the children: A very smart man came to Jesus with a question. He knew that he was supposed to love God and his neighbor, but he wanted Jesus to say more. "Who is my neighbor?" the man asked. To answer him, Jesus told a story:

Read the caption: One day, a man went on a journey. As he walked, robbers came and took all he had. Then, they left him by the side of the road.

- *Look at the man in the picture. What has happened to his robe? [It looks like it is ripped and he is bleeding.]*
- *Do you think he can make it all the way to the city for help? [No, it's quite far.]*



Picture 2

Tell the children: Jesus continued the story, telling how people who were expected to help the man looked the other way. They were busy, or scared, or just in a rush.

Read the caption: A priest came down the road, but walked on the other side. Another leader did the same thing. Would no one help the hurt man?

- *Look at the hurt man now. What has changed? [He's lying down. He's too weak and injured to sit up.]*
- *Point out the two leaders in the picture. Why do you think they kept walking?*



Picture 3

Tell the children: Jesus knew that Samaritans (a group of people who came from northern Israel) and Jews were enemies. Because of this, the next part of his story would probably surprise them.

Read the caption: Then a Samaritan came down the road. He saw the man and stopped. He took care of the man's wounds and helped him.

- *Why do you think the hurt man is on the horse like that? [He's too weak to sit up.]*
- *What do you think the hurt man will say when he realizes his helper is an enemy? [Call on volunteers to answer.]*



Picture 4

Tell the children: The Samaritan in Jesus' story brought the hurt man to an inn, and used his own money to make sure the man got medical care.

Read the caption: Who was a true neighbor in this story? The person who was kind and cared for the hurt man. We should act the same way.

- *Having heard this story, what is a "good neighbor?" [Good neighbors may or may not live nearby, but they are willing to help when they see someone in need.]*
- *How can you be a "good neighbor" at home, at school, or in other places? [Call on volunteers to answer.]*

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f. Bible Story Rhyme (optional)

The Bible Story Rhyme below is the same one found on the Upper Elementary Student sheet. The teacher can read the beginning of the line and see if the children can finish the last rhyming word of the phrase.

A man asked Jesus: "Who's my neighbor?
"Should I have to help a stranger?"
Jesus told the man a story
about what actions give God glory.

"A traveler was robbed and beaten.
He lay half-dead beside the street.
Two men saw but passed him by.
they walked along the other side.

"But then came a Samaritan, who
stopped and helped the injured man.
This one was a neighbor true,
showing just what you should do!"

g. Young Children's Activity (optional)

Simple in-class crafts or activities may be completed by the children if there is time left at the end of class. *(Note: For the youngest children, simply providing crayons and letting them complete the Coloring Page may serve as the "craft" for the day.)*

Denari Coin Craft



Materials Needed:

- Playdough (OR 2 c flour, 1 c salt, 3/4 - 1 cup water) wax paper, toothpicks, index cards, pens, small plastic bags

Instructions:

The Good Samaritan not only stopped to care for a stranger; he also used his own money. Remembering his good deed, children will make their own denarii coins.

If not using store bought play dough, make salt dough before class. To do so: Measure the flour and salt into a large bowl. Mix well. Pour in the water, slowly, as you continue mixing. Knead dough for several minutes.

At craft time, give each child a piece of wax paper and a lump of dough. Invite kids to divide these into smaller balls. Flatten them so they look like quarters. Using toothpicks, carve designs on the coins. Use the above illustration, or look up a real denarius online for reference. (If using salt dough, write on index cards: *Bake in a 250-degree F oven until coins are dry and hard, about 2 hours.)* Then, have kids put their coins in a plastic bag and take them home to bake.

h. Song (optional)

It's traditional to clap along to this upbeat African American spiritual. Kids can also lift their hands up when they get to, "lifted me." The youngest kids could play rhythm instruments as well.

I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me

Refrain: **I'm so glad Jesus lifted me.**
I'm so glad Jesus lifted me.
I'm so glad Jesus lifted me,
singin' Glory, Hallelujah, Jesus lifted me!

When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me.
When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me.
When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me,
singin' Glory, Hallelujah, Jesus lifted me!
[Refrain]

i. Story Review: Then What Happened?

Then What Happened is a learning game that helps kids retell the story and remember the flow of events. The teacher reads the starting sentence and then chooses a student to continue the story. There are two rules: each student may only add one sentence or say one new thing, and events in the story need to be in the right order.

- *Start:* **Jesus told a story about a traveller who was walking along a road. What happened next?**

If the younger kids have trouble, cut a Take-Home Page into four pieces (with no words) and let the kids put the illustrations in order while they tell the story.

j. Closing Prayer

Send the children home with the Take-Home Page, and tell them to ask their parents to read the story to them again (or, perhaps, they can read it to their parents). End class with this closing prayer, repeated each week for memorization.

We thank you, Lord, for all you give,
For family, friends, the lives we live.
Please bless our church, and pastors too,
And help us all to trust in you.
For those who face hard times and pain,
We pray your peace might fall like rain. Amen.

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