

# Lesson 2

## **-The Good Samaritan- Love Thy Neighbor**

### **The Good Samaritan - Love Thy Neighbor**

**2-5 Years**

**Opening Prayer:** To welcome the start of the class. For example:

"Dear God. As we once again come together, help us to learn more about your work and how we can be better Christians. Amen"

Set up your room once the children arrive. Ask them to help. Thank them for being a good neighbor when it's done.

**Bible Story:**

The Good Samaritan. Find a picture book in the library or tell the story in language that the children in your class will understand.

Talk about what a good neighbor is. Ask them what they can do to help others - have a few ideas of your own that you know your age group is capable of doing to start them off. Write down each suggestion on a piece of paper that's large enough for them to read, but will fit onto the paper

you're going to use for your activity. Make sure you have enough "suggestions" so that each child in the class will have a piece of paper.

### Activity:

Draw an outline of a person (or just head/shoulders if you aren't artistically inclined). Refer back to the discussion about what a good neighbor is, and ask them once again for suggestions. As each suggestion is remembered and called out, give the corresponding piece of paper to the first child to call out the answer and have them stick it around the outline drawing. When complete you should have a good example of the kind of things a good neighbor should be - hang this on the wall of your classroom so that you can refer back to it at a later date if you want too. OR

Refer back to the discussion you had earlier and have the children shout out suggestions for being a good neighbor. Write these down. Cut out simple people shapes that are big enough for little hands to color. Have them draw faces on one side. Turn them over and on the reverse; write one suggested answer on each "person". Attach each "person" to a piece of ribbon, wool or string and then tie these to a coat hanger or thin wood stick to create a good neighbor hanging mobile for your classroom.

**Song:** To the tune of "If you're happy and you know it"

If you're a good neighbor clap your hands  
 If you're a good neighbor clap your hands  
 If you're a good neighbor, really a good neighbor,  
 If you're a good neighbor clap your hands

Repeat with "stamp feet", "nod head" "shout - WE ARE"



**Closing Prayer:** Asking God to help being a good neighbor, for example:

"Dear God, thank you for our class today. Help us to be like the good Samaritan in our story. Let us show your work by being a good neighbor to those around us. Amen"

## 6-8 Years:

**Opening prayer:** To welcome students to class and introduce the theme. Keep the prayer simple and easy for the children to learn so that it can be said as a group prayer rather than one that the leader says. For example:

"Dear God. We thank you for the chance to meet once again in your presence. Help us to learn more about your work and to understand how we can follow in your footsteps. Amen"

### Bible Story:

Tell the story of the Good Samaritan to the children in the class.

A picture book version isn't necessary but a simplified version of the story will put it into the understand level of the age group. If you have a children's bible that you use with your class, then this ought to be appropriate.

### Drama:

Act out the story of the Good Samaritan.

Appoint the main characters in the story and direct them through the scenes of the people who walk by, and the Samaritan who stops to help.

### Discussion:

Think about the Commandment "Love thy Neighbor" and compare this to the Good Samaritan. Which of the people was a good neighbor? Who is your neighbor? What kinds of things does a good neighbor do? Who in the class is a good neighbor?

**Craft:** Create a Good Neighbor Garden

**Need:** \*Large piece of background paper, this can be green, or you could paint it green, or alternatively, scrunch up a rag, dip it in green paint and then dab it all over the paper so that the paper has a green look to it. Another alternative would be to use some plain green wallpaper if you have any.

\*Medium sized paper plates

\*Paint, crayons or sticky shapes to decorate

\*Thick marker pen

**Method:** Draw a circle in the middle of the plate; this is the centre of the flower. Have the children decorate the plate with whatever art materials you are using, but leave the centre white. Once they have decorated their "flower", ask them to think of a word that describes a good neighbor - one word per child, but a one that hasn't already been used - and using the marker pen write that in the centre of that child's flower and then ask them to "plant" (stick) their flower into the Good Neighbor

bor Garden. When you're finished, place a small banner of blue or white paper at the top with the words "Our Good Neighbor Garden" at the top of the picture and hang it on the wall.

**Closing Prayer:** Thanking God for the time together and for showing how a good neighbor should act. For example:

"Dear God, thank you for our time together today. Thank you for showing us how we should act towards one another. Help me to be a good neighbor to others and to act as the Good Samaritan to anyone who needs help. Amen"

## 9-11 Years:

**Opening prayer:** To welcome students to class and introduce the theme. Keep the prayer simple and easy for the children to learn so that it can be said as a group prayer rather than one that the leader says. For example:

"Dear God. We thank you for the chance to meet once again in your presence. Help us to learn more about your work and to understand how we can follow in your footsteps. Amen"

### Bible Story:

The parable of the Good Samaritan: Have students in the class read the story from your class - choose one student per verse.

Luke 10:25 - 10:37



### Discussion:

Why didn't the other people stop to help the man? Was the Samaritan a friend of the man? Why did he stop? Who, then, is your neighbor? Have the children discuss who they think their neighbor is for a moment and then ask, who is not your neighbor - and why? What is a good neighbor?

### Drama:

Bring the discussion into modern times. Make the "man" someone who isn't liked for some specific reason (plays for the wrong team, goes to the wrong school, too rich, too smart, etc), and then 2 people who would walk away (why), and 1 who should walk away but doesn't (why) - guide the children to find their own interpretation of the story in today's culture. Have them appoint classmates to each role and then act it out for the rest of the class with one of the students narrating the story.

**Activity:** Copy the following onto a sheet of paper and copy it for each student (on page 14 there is a page for you to reproduce and hand out to the class):

1379l932o3489v090034c3901 090438t98902h89098c989 9089l.9809o890r8904d3  
 98y89089o8904u8r489 892G8o9809d9802 38w1990i9084t903h9 043a1098l9091l2  
 389y890o98u343r2 890he3a5r565t6 19a7n790d 32w4892i98t457h1 890a2l33l3 5y489o981u84r  
 68s9o589u02l3 93a321n94d48 0w33i4489t42h5 901a2811419l8 4802y4o4801u092r3  
 689s2t5r380c382n09g741t4h20 10a190n918d 154w681i001t45h a01l10194l041 840y3o311u275r4  
 98m030i82n1d31.3

The student should remove all of the numbers from the bible quote and then rewrite it below the puzzle. As follows:

1379L932o3489v090034c3901090438t98902h89098c989-9089L9809o890r8904d3  
 98y89089o8904u8r489-892G8o9809d9802-38w1990i9084t903h9-043a1098l909l12  
 389y890o98u343r2-890hc3a5r565t6-19a7n790d-32w4892i98t457h1-890a2l33l3-5y489o984u84r  
 68s9o589u02l3-93a321n94d48-0w33i4489t42h5-901a281l419l8-4802y4o4801u092r3  
 689s2t5r380c382n09g741t4h20-10a190n918d-154w681i001t45h-a01l0194l041-840y3o311u275r4  
 98m030i82n4d31.3

Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind.

If anyone finishes early, ask them to identify the bible verse from the story and to write that below the quote they wrote out in the puzzle.

**Closing Prayer:** Asking God's Help to be a Good Neighbor. For example:

"Dear God, thank you for showing us how we should act towards our fellow man. Help us to follow your teaching and be a good neighbor to those around us. Thank you for the time we've spent together learning your work today. Amen"

**Assignment:** Remove all of the numbers from the puzzle below to reveal a secret bible quote. Write the bible quote you uncover below the puzzle:

1379l932o3489v090034e3901 090438t98902h89098e989  
9089L9809o890r8904d3 98y89089o8904u8r489  
892G8o9809d9802 38w1990i9084t903h9  
043a1098l9091l2 389y890o98u343r2 890he3a5r565t6  
19a7n790d 32w4892i98t457h1 890a2l33l3 5y489o981u84r  
68s9o589u02l3 93a321n94d48 0w33i4489t42h5  
901a281l419l8 4802y4o4801u092r3  
689s2t5r380e382n09g741t4h20 10a190n918d  
154w681i001t45h a01ll0194l041 840y3o311u275r4  
98m030i82n1d31.3

**Hidden Bible Quote:**

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## 12-14 Years:

**Opening prayer:** To welcome students to class and introduce the theme. Keep the prayer simple and easy for the students to learn so that it can be said as a group prayer rather than one that the leader says. For example:

"Dear God. We thank you for the chance to meet once again in your presence. Help us to learn more about your work and to understand how we can follow in your footsteps. Amen"

### Bible Reading:

Appoint a number of readers and have each of them read a verse in turn until they come to the end of the reading.

Luke 10:25-37



Luke  
10:25- 10:37

### Discussion:

Ask the questions and have the class tell you what they think. Why is it that the people walk past the man and don't help? Are they afraid? Of what? Why did the Samaritan stop? Why didn't he walk past like the others?

Now think about the story in today's world. Have the students come up with examples of their everyday lives and examples from the news of instances where the Good Samaritan story applies - for example, bullying in schools, gang rivalry, religious wars.

### Activity: Debate

Choose one of the modern day examples and split the class into two halves. Give the each half an argument to present - either for helping the issue/victim or for ignoring it/him - and then allow a set amount of time for each group to assemble their debate strategy and important points. Give each group a pen and paper so they can write down their key points ready for the debate. Tell each group that they will have 5 minutes to present their argument.

Once the allocated time is up - have each group appoint a spokesperson, and then let them speak for 5 minutes about why their group has the winning argument. Then switch and allow the other group.

### Discussion:

Bring the groups back together again and ask them which of the debating teams Jesus would have been on. Which one of them was the Christian way? Remind them that this was only an activity, but it was intended to make them think about situations in their lives and not to just accept situa-

tions for whatever reason, but rather to show their love of God by following his example and not walking by on the other side of the road.

**Closing Prayer:** To summarize the day's lesson and to ask God to help them find the courage to be a Good Samaritan, even if it wasn't the popular choice. For example:

"Dear God, thank you for the fellowship we've had in class today. Thank you also for your teachings and for showing me how to be a better neighbor. Help me to be like the Samaritan who doesn't turn away from something that is wrong, but have the courage to help the weak and threatened. In your love I ask this. Amen"