

Looking after people in need: The Good Samaritan

GETTING STARTED:

Divide the family into teams.

Give each team one or two toilet rolls. They must choose one person to be 'poorly'. The toilet roll will act as bandages.

Explain that they have 5 mins or until the end of a song (perhaps a worship/praise song) you'll play them to cover their chosen person in bandages. These can be wrapped around the body or each arm done separately.

The team who have the most bandages on the person will win.

DIGGING IN:

Tell the children the story of the Good Samaritan from Luke 10.25-37

When you have read verse 29 "Who is my neighbour?", stop reading and ask the children to think about that question. Who is their neighbour? What characteristics might they have?

Explain that our neighbour isn't just the nice little old lady down the street or the friends who live nearby. Jesus told a story to explain this.

Continue to read from verse 30 to 33. At this point explain that Samaritans were enemies of the Jews. They hated each other and would throw rocks at the Jews. This made the next part even more shocking for the listeners

Continue from verse 34 to 37.

Discussion time:

Talk about the following questions.

1. What question was Jesus answering when he told the parable of the Good Samaritan? (Who is my neighbour?)
2. Why do you think the Jewish priest and Levite did not help the wounded Jewish man? (Jewish rules prevented them from touching unclean things like blood or dead bodies)

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DIGGING IN cont:

3. Should the priest and Levite have helped?
4. How did the Samaritan help the wounded man? (bandaged the wounds, gave him water, took him to an inn and paid for him.)
5. Why is it significant that it was a Samaritan who helped the Jewish man? What characteristics of a good neighbour did the Samaritan have?
6. How does this story help us understand who our neighbour is? How can we become better neighbours?
7. How can we follow Jesus' teachings and show love for other people?

CRAFT:

How can we have helping hands? Make some hands (ideas in the photos below) and write on them ideas you have for helping others. We'd love to see what you make at our Vineyard Kids Family Service.



RESPONSE

Reflect further as a family on the following:

- How should we treat someone who needs our help?
- How should we treat someone who is different from us?
- How should we treat someone who might have been unkind to us?

Pray for each other asking God to help you to do this. Plan two or three ways you will help others in the week ahead. Pray for those you plan to help.

Adapted from Urban Saints: Energize Resources