



# 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>

January 17-18, 2015

DATE

The Good Samaritan

LESSON TITLE

Luke 10:25-37; 1 John 4:9  
Adventure Bible (pp. 1139-1140, 1373)

WHERE TO FIND IT

Love Your Neighbor

MAIN POINT

## schedule

**Connect Time (15 minutes):** Five minutes after the service begins, split kids into groups and begin their activity.

**Large Group (30 minutes):** Begin 20 minutes after the service starts. Model what it looks like to be engaged in large group.

**Small Group (15 minutes):** Keep kids in small groups until parents arrive. If you *all* have extra time at the end, you can review the video and songs together.

## tips

As you talk to kids about neighbors, feel free to ask them about the people they interact with on a regular basis—near their home, near their school or wherever!

## check-in/out

As kids leave, encourage them to tell their parents why they got a sticky “helping hand” in Kids’ Club today.

## large group heads up

Jesus told a parable about a “good Samaritan” who helped a Jewish man who had been beaten up and left to die...even though Samaritans and Jews were enemies. The story reminds us that Jesus wants us to love everyone and help anyone who needs it.



## connect time

**GOAL:** *Connect Time is all about engaging kids in an activity that allows them to connect with each other right away while simultaneously piquing their curiosity for Large Group and preparing their minds for what they're going to hear.*

### **ARE YOU MY NEIGHBOR?**

\*Give each group a **large, tear-off sheet of paper.**

- Ask each kid to write the names of their neighbors.
- After a few minutes ask:
  - What makes a person your neighbor? Why?
- Then ask them to share the best and worst parts of their week.

**Before you head into Large Group, remind them of your expectations for behavior: (1) be kind, (2) listen when somebody speaks, and (3) follow the leader's instructions.**



## instructions

**Goal:** Kids will (1) retell the story of the good Samaritan, (2) understand that Jesus calls us to love others and (3) identify one way they want to love a neighbor this week.

**Why?** Kids will be more likely to actually love a neighbor if they formulate a plan through the sharing activity.

**Tip:** If kids can't think of a person or didn't feel like God showed them one in small group, encourage them to choose anybody with whom they regularly interact.

## small group

### REVIEW THE STORY

1. Why did Jesus command us to love others as ourselves?
2. What was the relationship between Israelites and Samaritans?
3. Who were the three people who saw the Israelite who had been beat up?
4. Who would the Israelite have expected to help him? Why?
5. What does Jesus want us to learn from this story?
6. Have you ever seen somebody show love to a neighbor in a way that surprised you? Tell us about it.

### APPLICATION ACTIVITY

*\*Return to the large, tear-off sheet of paper.*

- Think of the person God brought to your mind during Large Group.
- Circle it if it's on the paper; add it (then circle it) if it's not.
- *You should have a bunch of circled names on the paper.*
- Give each kid a **sticky "helping hand."**
- Have them hold onto the end while tossing the "hand" onto the paper. (It'll stretch and the hand will stick somewhere randomly.)
- Look at the circled name closest to the hand.
- Ask the kid who circled it to share how they will love that neighbor this week!

**\*Pray, asking God to give kids strength to love others as themselves this week!**

*Extra time? Give each kid a **blank sheet of paper** and let him/her draw a picture of themselves helping that person in order to visualize it!*

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## special notes

Make sure to give kids time to hear from God at the end. Even if you have a rowdy group, give it a try!

## presenter tips

You can preview today's videos below:

Good Samaritan:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L3GJCK4Wy-0>

Give A Little Love

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PT-HBI2TVtI>

## script

*\*Click to play intro music*

Hi everybody! Welcome to Kids' Club. It's great to see you here. You guys just wrote names of your neighbors. And I want to know, what makes a person our neighbor? (Let kids respond.) Yep, we sometimes think of a neighbor as somebody who *lives* close to us. But actually, Jesus tells us a story that shows us that neighbors are any people with whom people we cross paths, anybody who comes close to us.

### **LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF**

So we're going to start today by looking at how Jesus tells us to treat our neighbors. In fact, when Jesus tells us to love other people in Matthew 22:37-39, he says this:

**SLIDE: Matthew 22:37-39 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul. Love him with all your mind.' This is the first and most important commandment. And the second is like it. 'Love your neighbor as you love yourself.'**

So how does Jesus say to love our neighbors? (Let kids say: like ourselves!) Yes! That might sound strange but think about it: we all love ourselves, even if we don't think we do.

Raise your hand if you put food in your mouth (let kids respond). Me too! Raise your hand if you like to get your own way (let kids respond). Me too! Raise your hand if you go to bed when you get tired (let kids respond). Me too! And raise your hand if you get mad at people who are mean to you (let kids respond). Me too! That's because I expect people to treat me well and to love me the way I love myself!

### **NEIGHBORS: ISRAELITES AND SAMARITANS**

But Jesus tells us to love OTHERS the way that we love ourselves. Now, when a guy who worked with the church heard Jesus command that we love God with all our hearts and love



## script continued

our neighbor as ourselves (point to verse still on screen), he asked, “Who’s my neighbor?” Jesus told a story to help us understand who our neighbors are. Does anybody know what it’s called when a story is told in order to teach a lesson? (Let kids say: parable.) Yes, Jesus told a parable and we now call it the parable of the Good Samaritan.

To really understand this story, you need to know that God’s family was called the Israelites, because they were from Israel. And another group of people were called the Samaritans, because they were from Samaria. And they were rivals, or enemies. The hatred goes way, way back to when land was being divided. By the time of Jesus, people from each place didn’t like each other...and they probably didn’t even know why.

But these two would do almost anything to avoid each other. **(Click to show map.)** This map even shows us the extra-long route Israelites would take to avoid going through Samaria! And the feeling was mutual. If an Israelite saw a Samaritan coming, they would just *expect* to be treated badly.

### THE GOOD SAMARITAN

So one day, a man from Israel was traveling from Jerusalem to Jericho...when he got robbed and beat up. He was left lying by the side of the road. Three people passed him. One was his enemy, the Samaritan. Let’s watch a little video to see what happened. See if you can figure out who helped the guy who was beat up (you can probably guess already)...*and* who didn’t.

#### Video: The Good Samaritan (Lego version)

Wow, crazy story! So first, who did DID help? Yep, the Samaritan...the one who was supposed to be an enemy. But it’s kind of interesting to think about who did NOT help, too. Does anyone remember? (Let kids say: a priest and a temple assistant.) That’s right, two men who actually worked with churches. But going to church doesn’t make you like Jesus. Loving your neighbor does!

Imagine if a Kids’ Club leader from another room sees you lying on the side of the road...they don’t know you so they keep walking. Then maybe a pastor from another church sees you. But he or she walks right on by too! Then...the meanest person at your school or that you know comes up. Think for a second about who that would be (let kids think). That person actually stops, helps you, pays for you to stay somewhere and won’t leave until you’re OK. How would that feel? (Let kids respond.)

And what would YOU do if you saw the meanest person you know in trouble. Would you care for them as well as you’d care for yourself? Just think about that one in your head!

### IMAGINE THAT!

It’s hard to love others sometimes, isn’t it!? But there’s a pretty cool video that shows us what loving our neighbors looks like. I’m not going to tell you much about it—we’re just going to watch it. As you watch, I want you to see if you can figure out what’s happening. At the end, I’m going to ask you what’s happening in this video.



script continued

### **Video: Give A Little Love**

Amazing. So what was happening in this video? *(Let a few kids respond. They may say: people were showing love in small ways, people saw other people love and then they showed love, people who received love gave love, etc.)* That's right. When we look out for others, we're loving our neighbors, just like Jesus commanded. And if everyone starts doing that, then the world looks pretty great, doesn't it?

### **WHY WE LOVE**

In that video, did anybody notice WHY people started showing love? *(Let kids say they saw somebody else do it or received love themselves.)* That's right! They somehow experienced love first, either seeing it or being loved. Except for that first kid, who just wanted to show love. He started the whole thing!

You know what? The Bible tells us WHY we love too. Sure, it's because Jesus commands us to do it. But it's also kind of like in this video. Jesus made it easier by *loving us first*.

For the next few weeks, we're going to learn a new verse. It's in I John 4:9 and it says this:

**SLIDE: I John 4:19 We love because he first loved us.**

Why do we love? *(Let kids respond.)* Yep, because Jesus first loved us. And when we experience his love, we should want to love him back—and spread that love to others too.

### **SUPER BOWL**

**(Click to show Super Bowl graphic)** You know, one way to spread Jesus love, is by inviting people to know Jesus. In two weeks, Crossroads has it's annual SUPER BOWL SERVICE. Consider inviting somebody who doesn't know Jesus to come with you. It's gonna be a lot of fun! And they might just experience God's love in a way that changes them.

Let's remember God's love right now and worship him together by singing songs of praise.

**Music Video: You Are**

**Music Video: Dance Laugh Love**

### **PRAY**

Let's talk to God about loving our neighbors for a minute. Everybody close your eyes. *(Ask the kids to spend a minute talking to God in silence. Encourage them to ask him to show them ONE person, one neighbor, that he wants them to love this week. After about a minute of silence, wrap up by asking God to help us love our neighbors this week.)*



**script continued**

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# PREP needs



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## connect time supplies

Per group:

1 large tear-off sheet of paper

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## small group supplies

Per kid

1 blank sheet of paper

1 sticky hand (OT: IN-12/4478)

Per group

Markers

Adventure Bible (pp. 1139-1140, 1373)

Large tear-off sheet of paper from Connect Time

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## large group supplies

Adventure Bible (pp. 1139-1140, 1373)

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## a/v needs

1. Song slide: for when kids enter the room (All that You Need instrumental; mp3 only; can be downloaded on website)
2. SLIDE: Matthew 22:37-39 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul. Love him with all your mind.' This is the first and most important commandment. And the second is like it. 'Love your neighbor as you love yourself.'
3. Image: map
4. Video: Good Samaritan Lego version (please cut off the first 0:33:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L3GJCK4Wy-0>)
5. Video: Give A Little  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y0abYKwRWIU>)

6. SLIDE: I John 4:19 We love because he first loved us.
7. Image: Super Bowl graphic
8. Music Video: You Are (Mae will have file)
9. Music Video: Dance Laugh Love (Mae will have file)

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## connect questions

Tell me about the Good Samaritan.  
How can we love our neighbors?

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## parent page

Jesus commanded us to love our neighbors as ourselves (Matthew 22:39). So a religious leader asked Jesus, "Who is my neighbor?" Then Jesus told the parable of the Good Samaritan, in which the unlikeliest person showed love and compassion. The story teaches us that Jesus wants us to love *everyone*, even people we don't know or would prefer to avoid. Ask your kid about it. And if you want, read the story together in Luke 10:25-37.