

The Good Samaritan



Read the Bible story

²⁵ An expert in the Law of Moses stood up and asked Jesus a question to see what he would say. “Teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to have eternal life?”

²⁶ Jesus answered, “What is written in the Scriptures? How do you understand them?”

²⁷ The man replied, “The Scriptures say, ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, strength, and mind.’ They also say, ‘Love your neighbours as much as you love yourself.’”

²⁸ Jesus said, “You have given the right answer. If you do this, you will have eternal life.”

²⁹ But the man wanted to show that he knew what he was talking about. So he asked Jesus, “Who are my neighbours?”

³⁰ Jesus replied:

As a man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, robbers attacked him and grabbed everything he had. They beat him up and ran off, leaving him half dead.

The expert in the Law of Moses and Jesus asked each other a lot of questions. As you read the story, either highlight or underline every question which is asked.

How many questions are there in total?

Jesus answers the expert on the Law’s question about neighbours by telling a story. Jesus often told stories called parables. A parable is a story which has an important message or lesson to learn in it.

³¹ A priest happened to be going down the same road. But when he saw the man, he walked by on the other side. ³² Later a temple helper came to the same place. But when he saw the man who had been beaten up, he also went by on the other side.

³³ A man from Samaria then came traveling along that road. When he saw the man, he felt sorry for him ³⁴ and went over to him. He treated his wounds with olive oil and wine and bandaged them. Then he put him on his own donkey and took him to an inn, where he took care of him.

³⁵ The next morning he gave the innkeeper two silver coins and said, "Please take care of the man. If you spend more than this on him, I will pay you when I return."

³⁶ Then Jesus asked, "Which one of these three people was a real neighbour to the man who was beaten up by robbers?"

³⁷ The teacher answered, "The one who showed pity."

Jesus said, "Go and do the same!"

Luke chapter 10 verses 25–37 (CEV)

What lesson do you think that Jesus wanted the expert in the Law to learn from his story about the good Samaritan?

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Questions to answer

1. What was the first question that the expert in the Law of Moses asked Jesus?
2. Fill in the gaps to complete the man's answer to Jesus in verse 27
"The Scriptures say, 'Love the Lord your _____ with all your _____, soul, strength, and _____.' They also say, 'Love your _____ as much as you love _____.' "
3. In Jesus' story, what happened to the man who was travelling from Jerusalem to Jericho?
4. Two other people were travelling on the same road, but did not stop to help the injured man. Who were they?
5. Use a dictionary to look up the meaning of the word 'neighbour'. Write it in this space.

When Jesus said that people should love their neighbours, he did not only mean people who live close to us. In Jesus' definition, everyone is our neighbour, and part of being a good neighbour is to give help to others who need it. Jesus said that the most important commandment, or rule, is to love God and the second most important commandment is to:

"Love others as much as you love yourself."

Mark chapter 12 verse 31 (CEV)

6. Which person in the story showed that they loved their neighbour by stopping to help the injured man?

7. The Samaritan is often known as the good Samaritan. Make a list of the things which he did which were good.

8. When Jesus finished telling the story, the expert on the Law admitted that the man who had been a real neighbour to the injured man was "The one who showed pity", the Samaritan. What did Jesus then tell him to do?

Who's who?

Match up these statements with the characters in Jesus' story by drawing lines between them. Some of the statements can match to more than one of the characters. We have done the first one for you!

The priest

He was the only one who stopped to help the injured man.

His job was to help the priests at the temple in Jerusalem.

He was one of the Jews' traditional enemies.

The temple helper

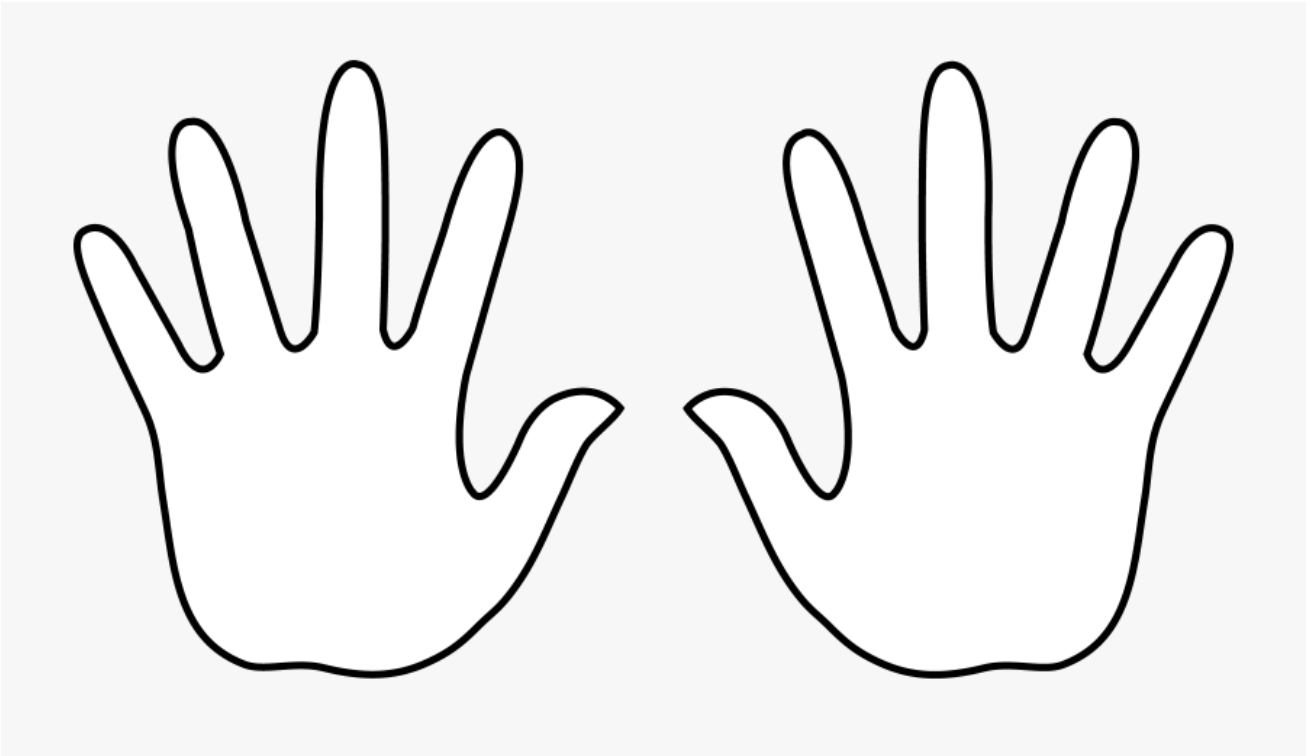
He was one of the religious leaders from the Temple.

The Samaritan

Everyone would have expected him to stop to help the injured man.

No one would have expected him to have stopped to help the injured man.

Helping Hands

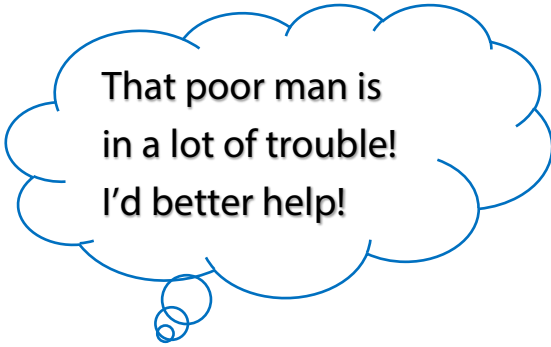


Draw around your hands and then cut the drawing out. Along each finger write one word you remember from the story you heard.

Join the hands together at the wrists using a split pin, sticky tape, glue or a stapler. If you stick them onto an old cereal box or similar first, they will last longer.

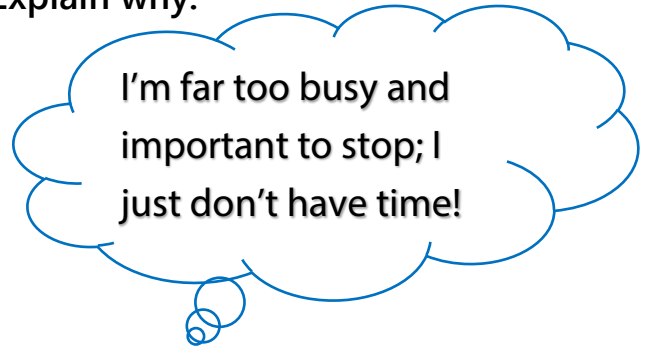
What were the characters in the story thinking?

For each of these thoughts, say whether you think it belongs to the priest, the temple helper, or the Samaritan. Explain why.



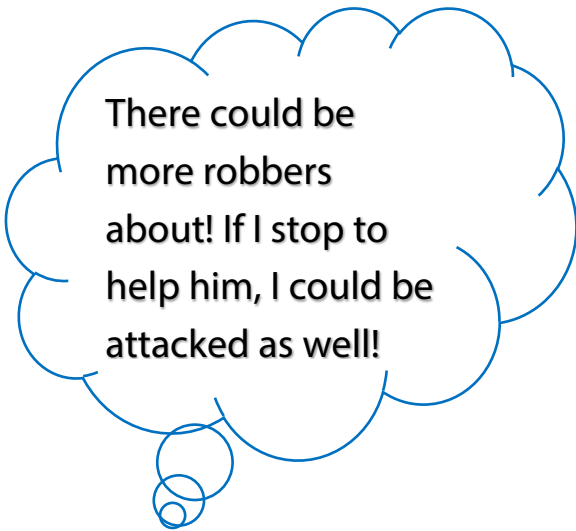
This might have been said by

I think this because



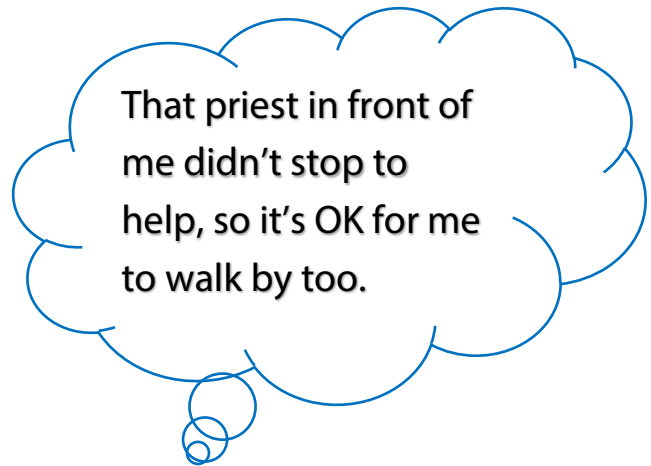
This might have been said by

I think this because



This might have been said by

I think this because



This might have been said by

I think this because

Cut out the pictures and words then put them in the order they happened to retell the story

There was once a man walking from Jerusalem to Jericho.



The temple helper thought, 'Oh, he looks terrible. But I'm sure he's no one I know.'

And he went by on the other side of the road as well.



The Samaritan bandaged the man's injuries and gave him something to drink.

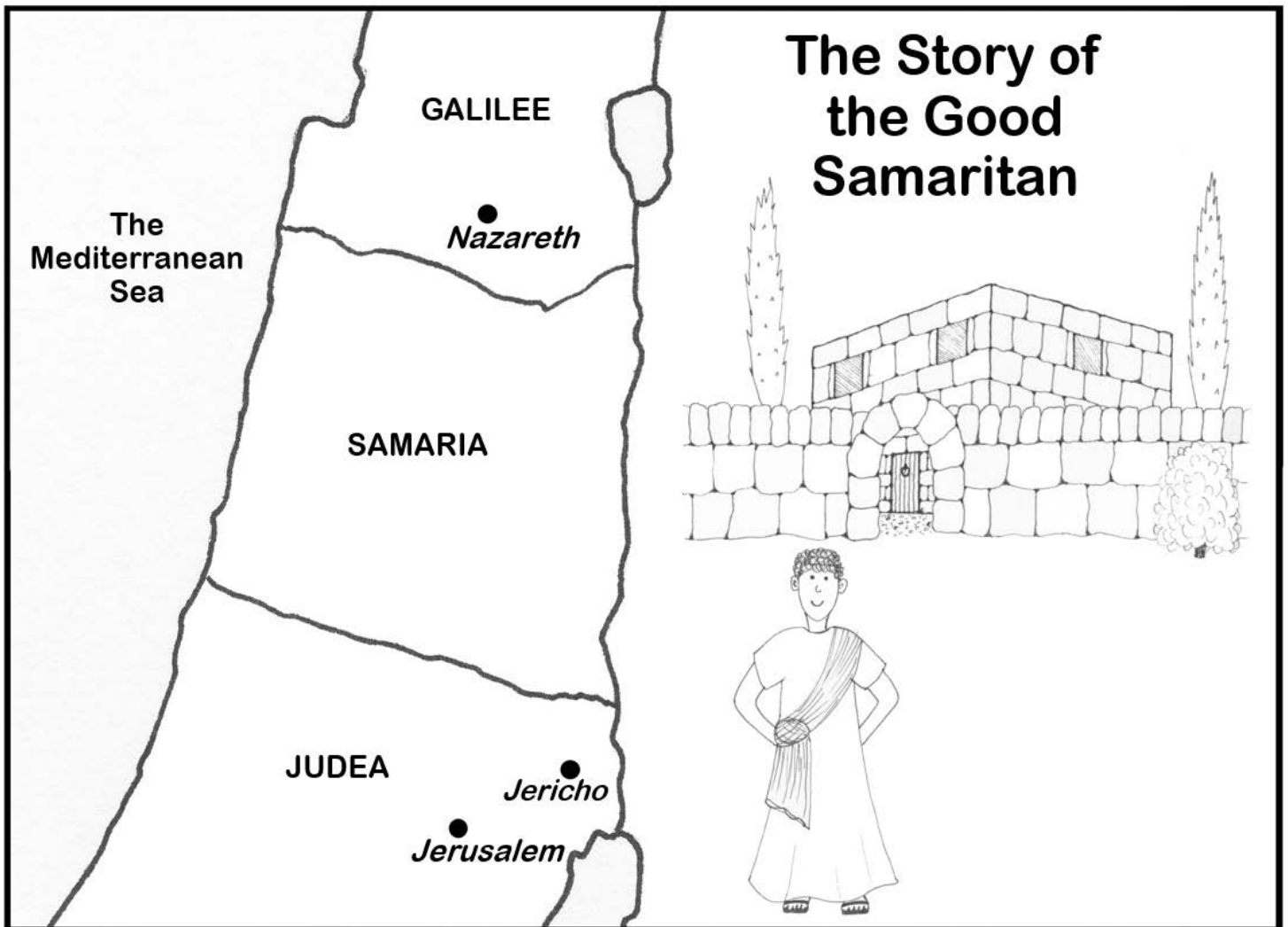


The Samaritan saw the injured man lying at the side of the road.



A map to colour

Samaria is the region in the middle of the Holy Land.



The Samaritans and the Jews were not friends with each other at all. They would have as little to do with each other as possible, and sometimes they even fought each other. The expert in the Law must have been very surprised that the Samaritan was the hero of Jesus' story rather than the villain.

Which of these words do you think that the expert in the Law might have used to describe Samaritans before he heard Jesus' story? Circle them in red. Which word describes how Jesus told him to think of them? Circle it in green.

- | | | | |
|---------|------------|-------------------|------------|
| Robbers | Neighbours | Enemies | Ungrateful |
| Nasty | Liars | Different from me | Selfish |

Word search

n f t y k r o b b e r s
j e s c r i p t u r e s
e e i a x c v j u n l a
r x c g j e r i c h o m
u f p r h f g n x r q a
s p o e f b c n b y t r
a o l p r d o n k e y i
l e g y u t v u b n m t
e r f c v y u i r i o a
m q w p r i e s t u i n
c o l i v e o i l z b y
t e m p l e h e l p e r

priest

temple helper

Samaritan

inn

expert

Scriptures

neighbour

Jericho

Jerusalem

robbers

donkey

olive oil

Some questions to think about or discuss as a family

In the story told by Jesus, which character behaved in the most unexpected way?

Can you think of some things that the expert of the Law might have done differently to try to be a good neighbour after he had heard Jesus' story?

Who helps us most at home? What do they do for us?

Have you ever been a good neighbour to someone else? Has anyone else ever been a good neighbour to you?

What could you do today to be kind to somebody?