

VICTORIA BAPTIST CHURCH –YOUTH WORK

Sunday morning teaching plan



Date: 6 April 25

TITLE:	The parable of the Good Samaritan. Luke 10:25-37
THEME:	Love your neighbour as a response to your faith in Jesus
AIM:	Understand that Jesus sacrifice is the greatest act of love

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

Probably the most famous and most loved parable of all. It speaks to every generation and can be interpreted on so many levels. It also speaks to us of Jesus rescuing us and being our Good Samaritan. The story, at the time, was shocking as Samaritans and Jews were enemies. Samaritans were the result of inter-marriage between Jews and the local Canaanites. Their worship and practices were an amalgam of Jewish and pagan. There was resentment on both sides. A Samaritan helping a Jew was unthinkable.

WARM UP

Balloon debate: Using images and descriptions from PPT decide who deserves to live and who does not.

You can throw up to three people out. Explore our criteria for who is valuable and “worthy” to live.

MAIN TEACHING

Activity 1. Read Luke 10: 25-37 and/or watch [Cheesy video](#)

1. This is a familiar parable to most of you. What have you been taught about it?
2. If Jesus were telling this today, who would be the characters?
3. The priest and the Levite often get bad press. Were they really so bad?
4. What would make you cross over the road?

Key teaching point: Jesus is challenging our understanding of “neighbour” as being people we like. He extends it to our enemies, those we are opposed to. Today this could mean anyone and everyone. Jesus wants us to extend our compassion to those we naturally would avoid. The priest and Levite were not so bad. They were just living by their own code/morals which said to avoid contact with the dead or with blood. They were trying to be good people, but in doing so they lost their compassion. Love for others should outweigh our “religious” or “social” rules. Maybe fear took over, perhaps busyness of life?

Activity 2 Samaritan in action. Watch short 3 min clip [Samaritan in action](#) (optional section if time)

1. What do you think of his actions?
2. What might you do?

Key teaching point. We might not all be able to do CPR but we can all have an attitude of compassion and willingness to help where we can. Remember we must keep ourselves safe too.

Activity 3. A danger in the story

It is easy to turn this story into just a moral about helping others and not being racist etc. If we do that we ignore the context and a deeper meaning as well.

1. What was the context? What was going on before the story began?
2. Why did Jesus tell the story?
3. What is the command at the end of the story?

Key teaching point:

The story is told as the result of a discussion about eternal life. The expert in the law was wanting to know if he was doing things right. Would he get to heaven? His answer revealed that a love for God is necessary and also obedience to the commandments summed up as "Love your neighbour as you love yourself." However, it seems that the man was keen to limit his love for others to those who were like him, his friends and family. Jesus shatters his world by saying there is no limit. If we are to inherit eternal life we must love like Jesus did and not limit ourselves. Jesus is the ONLY ONE who lived out the commands completely, yet He commands us to "go and do likewise!"

Activity 4 Jesus is our Good Samaritan

1. In what way is Jesus like the Samaritan?
2. How are we like the injured person?
3. What do the priest and Levite represent?

Key teaching point:

Jews and Samaritans were enemies. We too were enemies of God. The Samaritan had compassion on the Jew. Jesus has compassion for us. The Samaritan risked his life in stopping to help. It was dangerous. It cost him time and money. Jesus risked it all for us, it cost Him His life. The Jew was broken, injured and helpless. We are like that. We cannot rescue ourselves. The Samaritan brought life and healing to the man. Jesus brings life and spiritual healing to us too. The priest and Levite represent religious traditions that cannot rescue us from sin or death. Only Jesus can.

TAKEAWAY

Using coloured sugar paper/card, cut out hand shapes. Write name on them and create a united hand circle and stick on the noticeboard

Extra Info

