

The Good Samaritan

Jesus taught everyone 'love your neighbour as you love yourself'. One day a man stood up and asked, "Who is my neighbour?" And Jesus answered by telling them this story.

A Jewish man travelled from Jerusalem to Jericho, and was attacked by thieves, who robbed him, stripped him of his clothes, and hurt him very badly. They left him on the road half dead~!

By chance there came a priest that way, and, as a religious man, he should have stopped to help. (Ask: I wonder if he helped?)

NO HE DID NOT! He pretended not to see, and crossed over to the other side of the road. Then there came another man, who was a member of the church, so he should have given help. (Ask: I wonder if he helped?)

NO! He merely came and looked on the injured man, and passed over to the other side, just like the priest had done.

Afterwards there came by a Samaritan, and he spotted the dying Jew. Now the Jews hated the Samaritans, and they were enemies! (Ask: I wonder if he helped?)

The Samaritan did help the injured man! Even though it was his enemy, he could not pass him by and leave him on the road to die. He cleaned his wounds and bandaged them up; doing all that he could to soothe them. Then he lifted him carefully on his own donkey, and brought him to the nearest inn, and took care of him through the night. (Ask: When else have we talked about inn's and innkeepers?)

The next day, when the Samaritan had to go, he paid the innkeeper and said to him, "Take care of this poor man until he is well, and whatever it costs for his medicine and food, that I will pay you when I come again."

When Jesus had finished telling the story he asked: "Which of these three, do you think, was neighbour to the man that was attacked by thieves?" The man answered, "It was the Samaritan, his 'enemy' who showed mercy to him." Then said Jesus, "So you should all go, and do the same."