

Children's sermon

God-Lived Life – Month 2

Luke 10:25-37



Today I want to tell you a story Jesus told. It's called "The Good Samaritan."

There was a man who was travelling. Some robbers got him and beat him up. They took all his money and even his clothes. After they hurt him, they left him by the side of the road bleeding and so beat up he couldn't get up to find help. He just had to lie there, thinking he was going to die.

But then a priest—kind of like a pastor—came by. What do you think the man thought? "Hooray! Surely the priest will help me, right?"

But the priest didn't want to get any blood on his nice robe, so he went to the other side of the road and passed by, leaving that man there bleeding.

A little later, a Levite came by. That's a guy who works at the church—so he should be a good guy, right? He should help. Nope, he did just what the priest did and walked on by.

But then a Samaritan came by. The Jews were enemies with the Samaritans, they really didn't like one another. The man probably would have thought, "There's no way he will help me." But he did. That Samaritan went to him, cleaned his cuts, put bandages on them, gave him some water, and helped him up onto his donkey. The Samaritan led the donkey all the way to town, where he gave money to the innkeeper to let the injured man stay and recover. The Samaritan promised if there were any other expenses, he'd take care of them too.

So—now you tell me. Who was the good guy in the story?

- Was it the *priest* with all his learning in God's Word and importance in the church? Nope.
- Was it the *Levite* with his respectable church job? Nope.
- What about that Samaritan, the enemy? Yes! He helped him. He loved and sacrificed.

So, now, here is the real question. Which of those do you want to be like?

The Samaritan—not because of his background or job—but because he showed love. Today we're going to hear about how Jesus helps us to be a good neighbor like that. He gives us opportunities to show love for our neighbors.

And he showed you love first to make you want to. How did Jesus show you love? Yes, he died on the cross for you. He did what you didn't deserve, because he wanted to help you.

And he did.

Let's pray and thank God for being the best neighbor to us and ask him to help us be good neighbors.

Dear Jesus, thanks for telling us this story to remind us how important it is to love people and help them. You loved us when we didn't deserve it, and now we ask that you use us to show that love to others. In your name we pray.
Amen.