

# Bible Stories for Adults

## The Good Samaritan

Luke 10:25-37

### Opening

- Gathering: Share an example of someone you've seen play the part of the Good Samaritan.
- Today's Focus: Jesus taught that that we are called to love God and our neighbor in word AND deed.
- Key Verses: *Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind; and, Love your neighbor as yourself.* Luke 10:27
- Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise."* Luke 10:37

Opening Prayer

### Lesson

Inquire (*Luke 10:25*)

What situation led to Jesus telling the parable of the good Samaritan?

Luke 10:25

What would Jews do to find God's will in a given matter?

Judges 18:5-6

Could just any prophet be used to *inquire* of the Lord?

1 Kings 22:6-7

How could 400 other prophets be so wrong? Wouldn't they at least be statistically right?

1 Kings 22:20-23

Why did the lawyer *inquire* of Jesus about a heavenly topic?

Luke 24:19

Why don't we have to go to a priest or prophet to *inquire* of God's will for our lives?

Hebrews 7:24-25

How do we *inquire* of the Lord through Jesus?

John 14:13-14

Will God always answer when we *inquire* through Jesus' name?

Ezekiel 20:31

How can we be certain whether we will be answered?

John 15:5-7

Inform (*Luke 10:26*)

How did Jesus reply to the lawyer's inquiry?

Luke 10:26

Why would Jesus point the lawyer to God's Law for an *informative* answer?

Joshua 1:7-8

Why would Jesus point to the Scripture to *inform* the lawyer?

2 Timothy 3:16

Is it important that we are *informed* by the Scriptures?

Matthew 22:29

What is the most important *information* provided by the Scriptures?

1 John 5:13

How are we *informed* about what we are to believe?

John 20:31

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### Inclusive (Luke 10:27)

What answer did the lawyer give to *inclusively* summarize God's Law?

Luke 10:27

Would Jesus agree with this reply as an *inclusive* summary of God's commands?

Mark 12:28-34

Love the Lord - Commandments 1-3; Love your neighbor - Commandments 4-10

Was this greatest command of loving the Lord a new *inclusive* summary to the Jews?

Deuteronomy 6:4-5

Was the second command of loving our neighbor a new *inclusive* summary to the Jew?

Leviticus 19:18

### Instruct (Luke 10:28)

How did this summary of God's Law *instruct* the man what he must do to inherit eternal life?

Luke 10:28

How does loving the Lord relate to keeping His commandments?

John 14:21, 23

How are we *instructed* about what God wants simply by loving Him and living with Him?

Romans 8:5, 9-10

What promises are we given if we love the Lord and allow the Spirit to live in us?

Romans 8:11, 28

Why is the second command to love our neighbor essential to receiving eternal life?

1 John 4:20-21

How are we *instructed* about what it means to love our neighbor?

1 John 3:16-18

Was this John's *instruction* or was it God's?

John 15:12-13, 17

How important is love?

1 Corinthians 13:1-3, 13

Romans 13:10

### Interpret (Luke 10:29)

Would the lawyer accept this inclusive instruction, or would he try to *interpret* specifics out of it?

Matthew 19:16-18a

How did Jesus point out the *interpretation* that we are to give our whole selves, not just a part?

Matthew 19:18b-23, 29

How did the lawyer show that he wanted an easy task to earn his way into heaven?

Luke 10:29

Did the lawyer have a valid question when asking who should be treated as a neighbor?

Leviticus 19:33-34

Did the Jews practice this love of foreigners in Jesus day?

Acts 10:28

How was this barrier between foreigners removed?

Ephesians 2:13-16

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### Inflict (*Luke 10:30*)

How did Jesus find it best to help the lawyer understand who was his neighbor?

Luke 10:30

Why would Jesus use a story about someone who was *inflicted* to show who we are to love?

Luke 4:18

Who are we actually serving when we lovingly serve others who have been *inflicted*?

Matthew 25:37-40

Notes: While Jericho was only 17 miles from Jerusalem, it was 3600 feet lower

Road was narrow and rocky with sharp turns - prime area for robbers

Known as the Red Way or Bloody Way because of its danger

Many had few extra clothes, making them valuable to steal

### Ignore (*Luke 10:31-32*)

How did upstanding Jews respond to the situation of their inflicted brother?

Luke 10:31-32

How would this half-dead Jew have felt about being *ignored*?

Psalms 142:3-4

What was a priest and what was his job?

Numbers 3:10

Why would the priest feel he should *ignore* the half dead Jew and pass around him?

Leviticus 21:1-2

How was this even stricter for the high priest?

Leviticus 21:10-11

What was a Levite and what was his job?

Numbers 3:5-7

While not prevented like the priest from touching a dead body, why would the Levite *ignore* the man?

Numbers 19:11-12

Why might the Levite have gone beyond *ignoring* his brother's need and passed around him?

Numbers 19:14

### Involve (*Luke 10:33*)

After being ignored by two leading Jews, who finally *involved* himself with the inflicted Jew?

Luke 10:33

What was a Samaritan?

2 Kings 17:22-24, 33

Did the Jews accept Samaritans as their brothers under God?

Ezra 4:1-3

How well did Jews and Samaritans get along during Jesus' time?

John 4:9

What did Paul later explain that the Samaritan already understood?

Colossians 3:11-14

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Invest (Luke 10:34-35)

How did the Samaritan *invest* himself and his resources into serving this Jew?

Luke 10:34-35

Two denarii was 2 days wages and could have covered up to 2 months in an inn

How are Christians called to emulate this Samaritan's *investment*?

Romans 12:13

How did the Samaritan's *investment* stand out above the sacrifices made by the priest and Levite?

Hebrews 13:16

What did the priest and Levite miss about the importance of being clean for sacrifices?

Hosea 6:6 (1 Samuel 15:22)

Instrument (Luke 10:36-37)

Did this parable help the lawyer understand how to be an *instrument* of God's love?

Luke 10:36-37

Are we simply called to have compassion and feel for the needs of others?

Philippians 2:1-4

How did Jesus respond when he had compassion on those in need?

Matthew 14:14

How did Jesus further describe our calling to be His *instrument*?

Luke 6:32-36

But isn't faith alone needed to be rewarded with eternal life? Why are good deeds needed?

James 2:14-17

Closing Prayer

Note: Ten "I"s for today's lesson are taken from speech by Tom Claus

(Chief and Pastor of Mohawk tribe) at 1996 Promise Keepers in Dallas (10/26/96)

**Response** - Consider and meditate on one each day this week

1. How clear is it to me about what I must do to inherit eternal life?  
(Luke 10:25; 18:18-30; John 3:1-21; 20:31; Galatians 3:1-9; Ephesians 2:8-9; 2 Timothy 3:14-17)
2. How well do I understand what God wants of me?  
(Luke 10:26-28; 22:42; Deuteronomy 10:12-13; Micah 6:8; Acts 17:25-28; Romans 12:1-2; Colossians 1:9; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8; 2 John 2:15-17)
3. How well do I love the Lord my God with all my heart, soul, strength and mind?  
How is my love for God evident?  
(Luke 10:27; Deuteronomy 6:5; 11:1, 13, 22; 13:3-4; 30:6, 16, 19-20; Joshua 22:5; 24:15; John 14:15, 23; 21:15-17)
4. How well do I love my neighbor as myself? How is my love for others evident?  
(Luke 10:27; Exodus 20:1-11; Leviticus 19:18; Matthew 25:31-40; Galatians 5:14; James 2:8; 1 John 5:2)
5. What kind of a neighbor am I to others?  
(Luke 10:29-37; Exodus 20:12-17; Psalm 28:3; Proverbs 18:24; Zechariah 3:10; Romans 13:8-10; 15:1-2; Ephesians 4:25)