

## How Can I Show Kindness?

### Lesson 44

## Luke 10:25-37

### Memory Verse

Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in Heaven. Matthew 5:16

### Introduction

In today's story a religious leader comes and asks Jesus a question.

Luke 10:25-29

### Scripture

On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

"What is written in the Law?" he replied. "How do you read it?"

He answered: "'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.'"

"You have answered correctly," Jesus replied. "Do this and you will live."

But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

### Discussion

**Ask: What did the religious leader want to know?**

The man wanted to know how to get to heaven.

**Ask: What did he say to justify himself?**

He told Jesus that he had kept the law.

**Ask: What did he ask Jesus?**

Who is my neighbor?

The religious leader wanted to look good in front of the crowd. He wanted them to know that he had done good deeds.

Luke 10:30

**In reply Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he fell into the hands of robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead."**

The man was traveling down the road when he heard a noise. He was walking along part of the road that was very dangerous. He knew that thieves and robbers hid out to ambush and attack people.

Sure enough, the robbers jumped out from behind a rock and attacked the man. They took all his money and even his clothes!! They hurt him so badly that he could not get up.

He lay there unable to call for help.

**Luke 10:31**

**A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side.**

Suddenly, he heard footsteps. He tried to shout, but nothing came out of his mouth. The man walking by was a priest, so he thought that he would get help.

**Ask: What did the priest do?**

Believe it or not, the priest walked on by. He did NOT help!

The man was shocked. He was hurt so terribly and the priest did not help him. The priests were the Jewish religious leaders. They knew the law of God. They helped others understand the law of God.

If someone should help that wounded man it should have been the priest.

**Luke 10:32**

**So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side.**

Then, again, he heard footsteps. This time he hoped that someone would stop and help.

He saw that the man was a Levite. That means that the man helped in the church. Can you guess what happened?

**Ask: What did the Levite do?**

The man walked on by! This man did not help either!!

Neither of the men had compassion on the hurting man. Compassion means that you feel sad for someone that is hurt and try to help them.

Well, the man lay there hoping and praying that someone would come by to help him.

**Luke 10:33-34**

**But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him.**

**Ask: What did the Samaritan do?**

The Samaritan man had compassion.

This Samaritan man from another culture came along the road. The hurt man's hopes were shattered, he thought. He could see that the man was not like him. He knew that the man was different and would probably not stop.

Do you want to know the strange thing? Believe it or not, the kind man was a Samaritan. He was from a different culture. Usually the two different cultures stayed away from each other. They never talked to each other. The Jews would not even go through Samaria. They preferred to go around. Of course, this attitude does not please God.

**Luke 10:34**

**He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, took him to an inn and took care of him.**

What happened next was amazing!

**Ask: What did the Samaritan man do?**

The Samaritan man had compassion on the hurt man.

He saw that he was hurt and helped him.

He bandaged his sores and took care of him.

He put the hurt man on his donkey and walked him to the motel.

This man was so kind to the hurt man. He helped him and cared for him.

**Luke 10:35**

**The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.'**

**Ask: What else did the Samaritan man do?**

The Samaritan man took his own money to pay for the motel costs (for a man he did not know).

**Ask: What more did the Samaritan man do?**

The Samaritan man told the innkeeper that if he needed more money, he would pay him when he returned.

This indicates that the man planned to return. He was not content to help the hurt man. He planned to return to make sure the man was ok.

"Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?"

**Luke 10:36-37**

**The expert in the law replied, "The one who had mercy on him."  
Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise."**

**Ask: Who showed that he was a good neighbor?**

The man who had compassion demonstrated that he was a good neighbor.

**Ask: Who did Jesus want to teach through this story?**

Jesus wants us to have compassion for others too. The Samaritan did everything he could for the man that was hurt without expecting anything in return. He showed mercy and grace to someone who was not a member of his family. The man was not someone he knew. The man did not even belong to his race.

We may not have the opportunity to help someone who has been beaten up, but we can help in other ways to show that we care.

**Ask: How is sin like the thieves?**

Sin is like the men who attacked the hurt man. Sin attacks us. Sin robs us of our goods, our health y then leaves us hurt and abandoned. Sometimes sin leaves us almost dead. Sin separates us from God.

**Ask: How is Jesus like the good Samaritan?**

Jesus cared for us like the Samaritan cared for the man. He loved us so much that He did something for us to help us. We were like the hurt man. All the bad stuff we have done made our heart dirty inside. The wrongs that we do are called sin. The sin that we have inside us hurts us because it separates us from God.

Jesus was like the kind man. He made a way to help us and care for us. He died in our place for all the bad stuff we have done. If we believe in Him, He will wash away all the bad stuff and erase it from our hearts. Then, we are clean and can go to Heaven one day!

**Ask: Would you like to invite Jesus to be a part of your life?**

God wants to change our lives and our hearts. God wants us to know Him and to know His love. God does not force us to follow Him. God waits for us to invite Him to be a part of our lives.

**Romans 10:9-10**

**That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.**

Romans 10:9-10 tell us that we need to do two things. First, we have to confess with our mouth that Jesus Christ is Lord. Second, we have to believe in our heart that God has raised him from the dead. Then we will be saved and