

The Good Samaritan (A Parable)

(Luke 10: 25 – 37)

Verse to memorize : (Matthew 5: 7)

"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy."

The Story:

One day, a teacher of the Law asked Jesus: "What must I do to receive eternal life?" Jesus explained to him that he has to love God from all his heart, and to love his neighbour as he loves himself. So the man asked: "Who is my neighbour?" Jesus answered him by telling this story:

"A Jewish man was travelling from Jerusalem to Jericho. Along the way, some thieves jumped out and attacked him. They took all that he had and left him to die on the road.

After a while he heard footsteps, it was a priest. The man thought that surely a priest would help him, but the priest walked on the other side of the road without even looking at the hurt man!

At last he saw a Levite coming. Levites were servants in the temple. They spend their lives teaching people about God's rules. Surely he would help the man. But the Levite came over, bent down, looked at the hurt man and walked away.

Once again the man saw another traveller approaching. He lifted his head and opened his eyes and saw that the traveller was a Samaritan. The man laid back with a groan. The Jews and Samaritans had been enemies for years. There was no use thinking that this man would help! When the Samaritan saw the injured man, his heart was filled with pity. He went over to him, soothed his wounds with medicine and bandaged them. Then he lifted the man upon his donkey and took him to an inn, where he took care of him. In the morning, the Samaritan had to be on his way. He gave the inn-keeper extra money and said to him: Take care of him and when I come back this way, I will pay you whatever else you spend on him"

At the end of the story Jesus asked the teacher of the Law, which one of these 3 men did he think acted as a good neighbour to the wounded man? He answered: "The man who was kind to him". Jesus said, "Go, then, and do the same."

And now :

You may not face this situation, as it is in this story, in your whole life, but how would you feel and what would you do if:

- a person you know did not have any friend?
- the bullies of the school were pushing another kid around?
- Someone is ill and has no one to ask about him?

Jesus says: "Go, then,, and do the same" (please, write your name in this space)

Notes :

- The Samaritan did not look to the race or the origin of the wounded man, he just helped him.
- The priest and Levite used to teach people about God's rules, however they failed to apply them. It is quite good to talk about God, but more important is to do what God wants us to do.
- The Samaritan persisted in helping the wounded man: he soothed his wounds, took him with him to the inn, looked after him the whole night, and even when he had to go, he made sure that the innkeeper will look after him. And we, what do we do?

"Go, then,, and do the same"

