

Love

[The Good Samaritan]



THE BIG IDEA

Love your neighbour as yourself.



MEMORY VERSE

See Resource FOS4 Ideas for Learning Memory Verses.

Galatians 5:22-23 (ESV)

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

KEY VERSES



ANCHORS:

1 John 4:19 (ESV)

We love because he first loved us.

JUNIORS:

Luke 10: 27 (ESV)

You shall 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 your neighbour as yourself.



READ

Luke 10: 25-37

Resources

▶ Praise Songs



See Resource FOS5

Love, Joy, Peace, by Shelley Spiers

YouTube

Fruit of the Spirit Children's Song

https://bit.ly/FOS_Song

▶ Activity



See Resource FOS2

Role Play

▶ Craft



See Resource FOS3

Helping Hands

▶ Programme Card

Love Object Lesson

https://bit.ly/AB_Love_worksheet



Discussion

▶ How would you 'love your neighbour' in each of these situations?

Depending on the group, these scenarios could be discussed as one large group or in multiple smaller groups. In large companies,

each group could be given one scenario to discuss and then report back to the group as a whole.

Use the easier questions for Anchors.

1. Your friend falls over in the playground and hurts himself.
2. Your friend's favourite football team wins a big match. You don't like the team, as they beat your favourite team last season.
3. Your Granny hurts her arm and can't do all the jobs around her house that she usually does.
4. You see someone being unkind to your friend in school.
5. Your Mum or Dad has had a very busy and tiring week at work.
6. You and your friend are eating some crisps. Your friend drops their crisps and they spill all over the ground.
7. There is an earthquake in a country far away and lots of people have lost their homes and everything they own.
8. A new pupil joins your class. He has just arrived from another country and does not speak English.
9. You find a wallet lying on the footpath. Inside, there is a lot of money, as well as a name and address.



The Talk

When we live for Jesus, His Holy Spirit comes to help us say no to sin and yes to Jesus. The Holy Spirit helps us to grow to become more and more like Jesus every day. As we grow to be like Jesus, other people will be able to see some really good things beginning to show in our lives – we call these things the 'Fruit of the Spirit.' These are things that we need God's help for.

We read about the Fruit of the Spirit in the Bible. The first fruit mentioned is love – not mushy, lovey-dovey love that sometimes makes us giggle or blush; but the type of love that means going out of our way to help other people; caring for others even when it isn't easy, and putting other people's needs before our own. Let's see what the Bible has to say about love!

A man came to Jesus with an important question. He knew that it was a tricky question and he wanted to test Jesus. He said, "I want to live forever. Can you tell me what to do?" Jesus was sure that this man knew lots of things about God's law, so Jesus asked him what the law said.

The man answered, "Love God completely and love your neighbour as you love yourself." Jesus replied, "That's the right answer! Do this and you will live!"

The man had another question. Maybe he had started to realise that what Jesus had told him to do wasn't so easy after all.

He asked, "Who is my neighbour? Is it just my friend? Is it the person that I see every day? Is it the man who lives next door?"

To answer his question, Jesus told a story.

Luke 10:25-37

A man was travelling from Jerusalem to Jericho. It was a long, twisty and bumpy road. It was a road with many dark corners, where robbers loved to hide and lie in wait, ready to jump out when someone walked past. That is exactly what happened. Robbers beat the man, stole all that he had; and left him lying on the road, very badly hurt. He was bleeding and bruised. He needed someone to rescue him – who would say yes?

Along came a priest, who worked in the temple. He knew about God's law, so surely he would help. Or would he? When the priest saw the man, he crossed over to the other side of the road. The man needed someone to rescue him – **but the priest said no!**

Next came a Levite, who also worked in the temple. He knew about God's law, so surely he would help. Or would he? He also passed by on the other side of the road. The man needed someone to rescue him – **but the Levite said no!**

Then a Samaritan came travelling along the road. Now, the man on the road was a Jew; and Jews hated Samaritans. They were the people that the Jews didn't want to be near and didn't want to speak to. No one would expect the Samaritan to stop to help. Everyone would expect him to walk by on the other side of the road. The man needed someone to rescue him – **the Samaritan said Yes!**

The Samaritan saw that the man needed help, so he helped him. He bandaged up all of his cuts and bruises; he put the man onto his own donkey and took him to find a place to stay. He looked after him there, and when he had to go, the Samaritan left some money with the innkeeper to make sure the man was cared for until he was well again. He promised to come back and pay the innkeeper any more money that he owed.

Jesus asked the man, "Who was the sick man's neighbour? Was it the priest, the Levite or the Samaritan?"

The man answered, "The one who helped." Jesus told him to go and do the same, because his neighbour would be anyone who needs his help.

Jesus used the story to teach an important lesson. We should show love to other people and help anyone who needs our help, even if they are people who don't look or sound like us, or people that we wouldn't usually spend time

with.

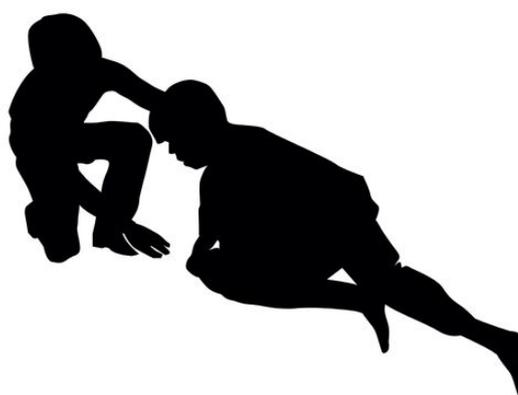
Jesus told the man to love God completely and to love his neighbour as he loved himself. This is an important lesson for us to follow, but it is something that is far too difficult for us to do by ourselves.

Even when we try to love God completely and to love other people well, we make mistakes and do things that we shouldn't do. Jesus is the only person who has ever loved perfectly – we all fall short of God's perfect standards because of our sin. We need someone to rescue us... and **Jesus said yes!**

Jesus died to rescue us from sin – this is the greatest love that we will ever know! He rose again and is alive today.

Trusting Jesus to forgive your sin is the only way to be part of God's family and to have life that lasts forever. The man in the story really asked the wrong question because there is absolutely nothing that we can do to live forever. We can only have eternal life because of what Jesus has already done!

If you trust Jesus to rescue you from sin, God's Holy Spirit will come to live in you and will help you to say no to sin and to live for God. He will help you to show love to those around you. How can you show God's love to someone else today?



Next Page:

Alternative re-telling of the story in rhyme. If you choose to use this you could also ask some children or adults to act out parts of the story as it is read.

The Good Samaritan in Rhyme

Someone came to Jesus;
It was a very clever man.
He said, "I want to live for ever,
can you tell me how I can?
Jesus said, "Think of the law.
What does it say to do?"
The man replied, "It says love God
and love your neighbour too."

Jesus told the man that he
had got the answer right:
Love God and others perfectly
and have eternal life.
The man knew what the law required
and may have read it every day
but he couldn't love so perfectly
for sin got in the way.

He had another question
to put Jesus to the test.
He asked, "Who is my neighbour?
Just the person I like best?"
So Jesus told a story
as he often chose to do.
So now, relax and listen
as we hear that story too.
A man went on a journey
along a road one day
from Jerusalem to Jericho –
such a long and winding way.
Now, robbers often stole from those
who journeyed past that way.
They beat the man and left him there
and badly hurt, he lay.

A priest came walking down the road
and saw him lying there.
He crossed the road and walked on by.
He showed no love or care.
Then came a Levite and, he too
crossed to the other side.
Would no-one stop? Did no-one care
that this poor man could die?

Another man came down the road
A Samaritan this time.
Jews didn't like Samaritans.
Surely he'd just walk on by.
But no, he helped the injured man
and cared for him that day.
He took him on his donkey
to find a place to stay.

He paid the man who owned the inn
so the injured man could stay.
He'd call again to pay his debt
When he came back that way.
When Jesus told a story,
He always had a plan.
So, Jesus asked, which one had been
a neighbour to the man?

"The one who helped," the man replied.
He didn't say his name.
Jesus said, "Yes that's correct,
Now go and do the same."

Love God and love your neighbour too,
is how we should live today.
But we can't do this by ourselves
For sin gets in the way.
Our sin has kept us far from God
and out of heaven too
but God gave us his perfect Son
to rescue me and you.

Jesus died to pay for sin.
He rose up from the grave.
He'll give eternal life to all
who trust in Him to save.
How can I live forever?
Jesus is the only way.
We love because He first loved us.
Will you trust in Him today?