

✕ Caring ✕

YOUNG PERSON PLACES HIGH VALUE ON HELPING OTHER PEOPLE.

By Sarah Peloquin

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Luke 10:25-37 "But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity."

✕ Chat Time! ✕

- Describe a time when you did something caring for someone.
- Describe a time when someone did something caring for you.
- What influences how you care about others?
- What does the word neighbor mean to you?
- What does it mean to be a "Good Samaritan"?
- Tell about a time that you felt guilty for not being a "Good Samaritan".
- Are there people we should/ should not care for? Who are they and why?
- Do you think our world today is more or less caring than in Jesus' time? Why?
- How can we set an example in caring for others?
- What responsibilities do you have to show caring in your community?
- What kinds of worries do you have about caring for others?
- What kinds of feelings do you experience when you care for someone?
- How do you feel when you are the one being cared for?
- What things in your life keep you from experiencing compassion and taking action and how can you overcome them?

EXPLORE

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Matthew 25:34-40 | for I was hungry and you gave me... |
| Matthew 9:36-38 | he had compassion for them... |
| Philippians 2:3-8 | ...look not to your own interests... |
| Job 2:13 | ...for they saw that his suffering was very great. |
| Psalms 15 | Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right... |
| Mark 10:35-45 | For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve... |

So What?

Brainstorm specific ways to surprise friends and family with creative caring acts of kindness.

e.g.---

- surprise meal
 - special homework help
 - surprise calls to grandparents
- Pick one. Write it on the card to take as a reminder.

Candle Time

Benediction of St. Theresa

Say: Christ has no body now on earth but yours, no hands but yours, no feet but yours.
(Touch eyes)

Say: Yours are the eyes through which Christ's compassion is to look out to the world.

(Touch feet)

Say: Yours are the feet with which Christ is to go about doing good.

(Touch hands)

Say: Yours are the hands with which Christ is to bless all people now.

Amen.



Leader Page

Discussion Goal

Value caring out of gratitude for Christ.

Background

A caring person can be a bright spot in a sometimes-harsh world where there is pain, fear, anger, hunger, and loneliness. A caring person is kind, compassionate, considerate, and generous, always willing to help others. Caring persons give support and comfort with no strings attached just for the sake of making someone else's life better, not for praise or gratitude. Caring is a choice. It is not the norm in today's world, where many people have become quite self-centered, blocking out other people's problems and focusing only on themselves. Caring people have moved from selfish to selfless. Caring is not easy. Sometimes seeing the need is a lot easier than meeting the need.

The story of the Good Samaritan is an excellent example of this. In this story Jesus is trying to teach us that your neighbor, whom you are to love as yourself, is anyone of any race or creed or social background who is in need and that you are to meet that need with love and compassion. The religious men chose to see the need and do nothing. The wounded man was a problem to be avoided. To the Samaritan, the wounded man was a human being worth being cared for and loved. This was huge because in Jesus' time Samaritans and Jews did not talk to one another. Although the terms have changed now to ones like nerd, loser, or scum, the message of exclusion is the same. The Samaritan, unlike the others, did not ignore the problem or talk about it with others. Instead, his heart was stirred at what he saw and he had a desire to change the situation. Not only did he have pity and sympathy toward this man, but he also let those feelings move him into action. He got deeply, practically, and intimately involved.

Motivate

Tape a blank piece of paper or a sticky note on each person's back as they enter the room. Hand out pens and encourage everyone to write one positive, descriptive word on each group member's paper. Tell them not to repeat words that are already on the paper. After everyone is finished, have them each remove their papers and read what others wrote about them. If you want, have kids explain why they chose to write the things they did. Then have a volunteer read Luke 10:25-37. It isn't always easy to say "I care, let me help you." We all worry, "What if the person laughs at me or doesn't want my help?" Explain that we can train our hearts to see the good - not just the bad - in others. With the help of Jesus, we can really learn to care for one another.



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