

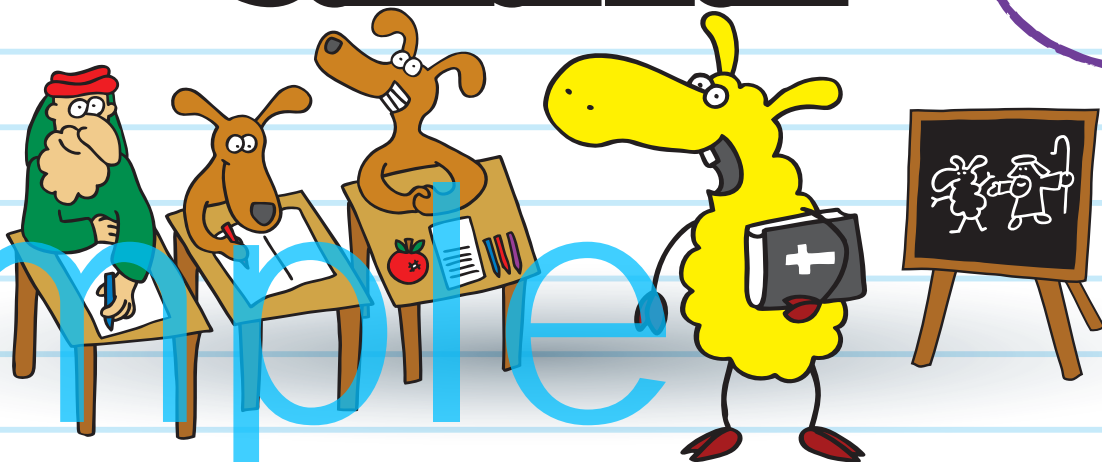


SHEEP DOG SCHOOL™

The Good Samaritan

Created by Andrew McDonough

Sample

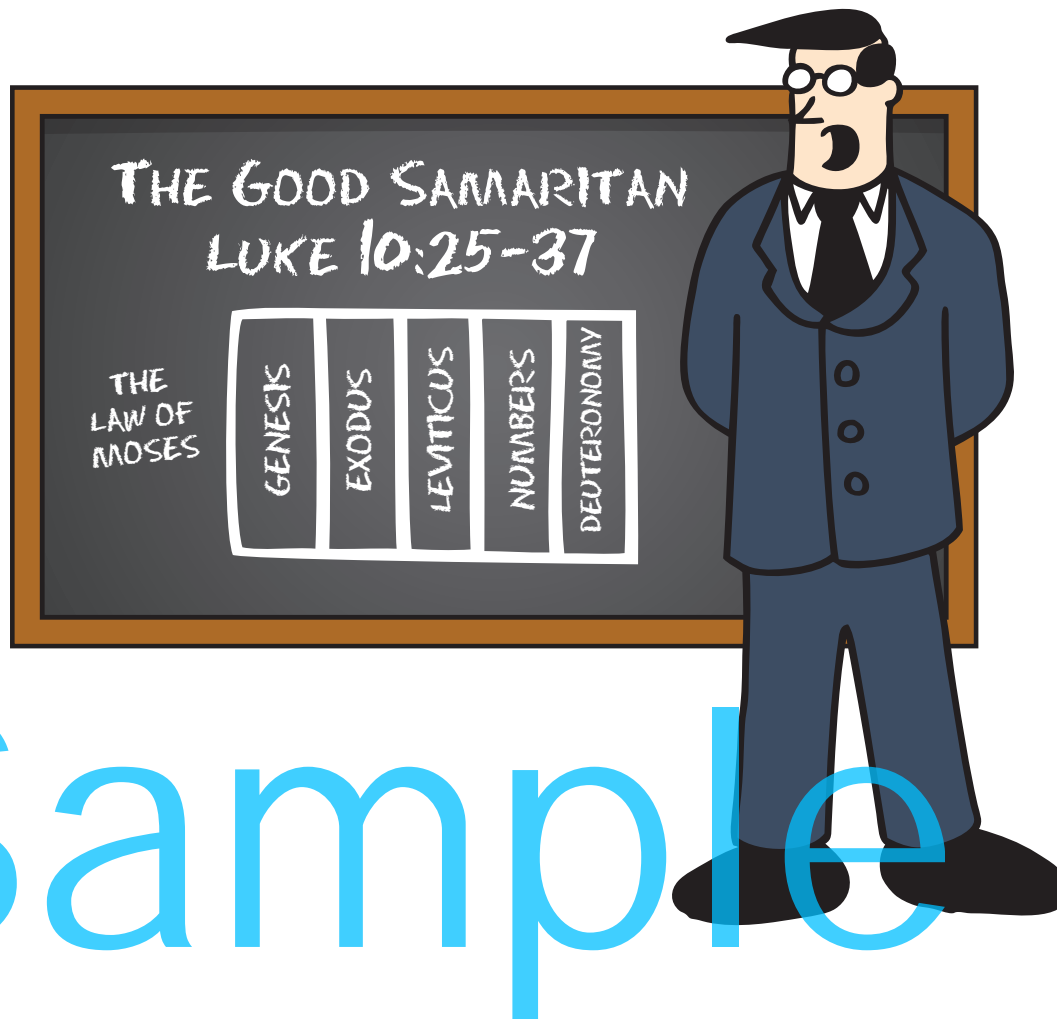


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Introduction

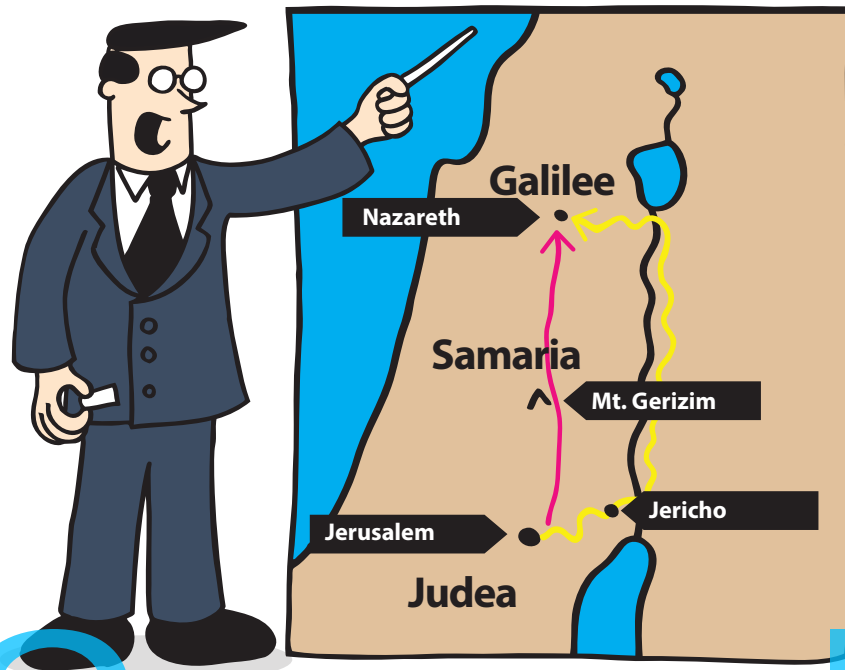


Hello shepherds, sheepdogs, teachers, and parents.

Cecil has invited me to teach this next lesson on the Good Samaritan. I am called an 'expert in the law.' No, that doesn't mean I'm a fancy lawyer. It means I am an expert in the Law of Moses, the first five books of the Bible, also known as the Pentateuch. I know the Old Testament inside out and upside down. If I were at your church, I would be up at the front preaching. Now, open your Bibles to my favourite story, found in [Luke 10:25-37](#), where I tried to catch Jesus with some tricky questions.

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History & Geography



If you look at the map, you will see that the Samaritans were the Jews' next-door neighbours. The region of Samaria was sandwiched between Galilee, where Jesus lived, and Judea, where Jerusalem was. But the Jews and Samaritans did not get along. Both regarded themselves as the true Bible-believing people of God and regarded the others as outside God's family. In fact, most Jewish people traveling from Jerusalem to Galilee would refuse to take the direct road that passed through Samaria. Instead, they would bypass the Samaritans by going down the windy road to Jericho, along the Jordan Valley, and up into Galilee.



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Master Class



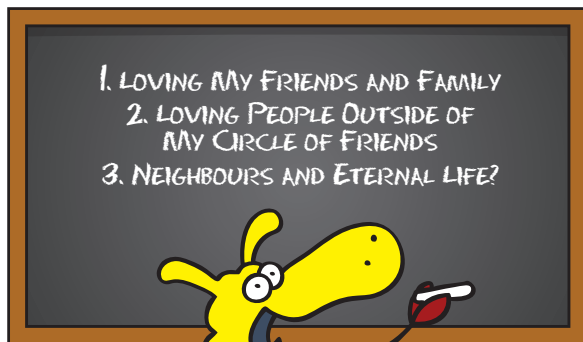
1. Love Your Neighbour

Now class, please open your Bibles. The answer I gave to Jesus' question comes from [Deuteronomy 6:4-9](#) and [Leviticus 19:18](#).

We Jews, and even those Samaritans, have always made sure our children know these commandments by heart, and we would encourage all Sheepdog School trainees to teach them to their children. In [Matthew 22:35-40](#) and [Mark 12:28-34](#), Jesus said these were the two greatest commandments and that the rest of the teaching of the Old Testament hangs on them. If you want your children to follow Jesus, teach them these commandments.

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Teaching Tips



1. Loving My Friends and Family

Young children learn the foundations of kindness, consideration, and love at home with the family first, then at play group or Sunday school as they mix with their friends. The Good Samaritan is an ideal story for laying the foundation of the command to “love God and love your neighbour.” Small children don’t need to know that the Jews and the Samaritans struggled to be friends.

2. Loving People Outside of My Circle of Friends

Middle primary school children are ready to build on the foundation. Use the story as Jesus intended and tackle these questions: “Who is my neighbour?” or “Am I to help those who are outside my circle of family and friends?” Most of the time, the person isn’t an enemy, but just someone the children may not normally play with or don’t know very well. Remember, as Jesus pointed out in [Matthew 5:43-47](#), people of all types, whether humanists, atheists, or tax

collectors, know how to look after their own. It is when we care outside of our circle of church, family, and friends that we shine as followers of Jesus. What a wonderful quality to develop in our children.

3. Neighbours and Eternal Life?

Older children love wrestling with issues. Begin with the Bible expert’s two questions: “What must I do to have eternal life?” and “Who are my neighbours?” Tell the story, then come back to the questions and Jesus’ command to “Go and do the same!” You will have an excellent time discussing life, the cross, and following Jesus.

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Bible Verses

Leviticus 19:18 NIV

Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against anyone among your people, but love your neighbour as yourself. I am the Lord.

Deuteronomy 6:4-9 CEV

Listen, Israel! The Lord our God is the only true God! So love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and strength. Memorize his laws and tell them to your children over and over again. Talk about them all the time, whether you're at home or walking along the road or going to bed at night, or getting up in the morning. Write down copies and tie them to your wrists and foreheads to help you obey them. Write these laws on the door frames of your homes and on your town gates.

Deuteronomy 11:29 NIV

When the Lord your God has brought you into the land you are entering to possess, you are to proclaim on Mount Gerizim the blessings, and on Mount Ebal the curses.

Joshua 8:33 CEV

Moses had said that everyone in Israel was to go to the valley between Mount Ebal and Mount Gerizim, where they were to be blessed. So everyone went there, including the foreigners, the leaders, officials, and judges. Half of the people stood on one side of the valley, and half on the other side, with the priests from the Levi tribe standing in the middle with the sacred chest. Then in a loud voice, Joshua read the blessings and curses from The Book of the Law of Moses.

2 Kings 17:24-41 CEV

The king of Assyria took people who were living in the cities of Babylon, Cuthah, Avva, Hamath, and Sepharvaim, and forced them to move to Israel. They took over the towns where the Israelites had lived, including the capital city of Samaria.

Matthew 5:43-48 NIV

You have heard that it was said, "Love your neighbour and hate your enemy." But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? And if you greet only your own people, what are you

doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Matthew 22:35-40 NIV

One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: "Love your neighbour as yourself." All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.'

Mark 12:28-31 NIV

One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them

a good answer, he asked him, 'Of all the commandments, which is the most important?' 'The most important one,' answered Jesus, 'is this: "Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength." The second is this: "Love your neighbour as yourself." There is no commandment greater than these.'

Luke 9:51-56 NIV

As the time approached for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem. And he sent messengers on ahead, who went into a Samaritan village to get things ready for him; but the people there did not welcome him, because he was heading for Jerusalem. When the disciples James and John saw this, they asked, 'Lord, do you want us to call

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The End



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The Good Samaritan Sheepdog School

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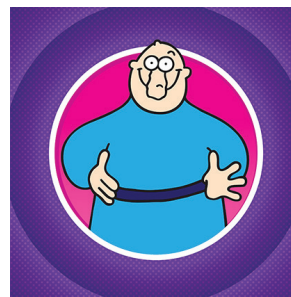
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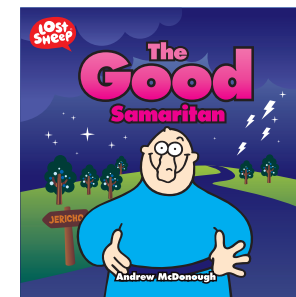
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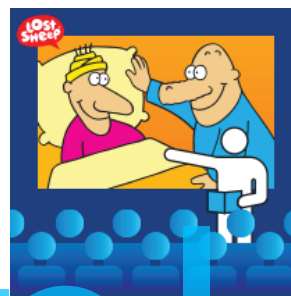
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