

## **Children and family talk for Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2022.**

Good morning!

This Sunday we are focusing on the charity ACTS 435, which is a charity which I am connected to through my family work. Acts 435 is an online giving charity, directly connecting those who want to give with those who are in genuine need of their help, through a network of local churches and charities. I am the contact for our church for this charity. This means that if I know of a family who are in need of help, then I can put up a request on the charity's website and people from all over can respond to help financially, if they are able.

Today we are going to hear about a man who was in need and the person who found the time to stop and help.

Let's read from Luke chapter 10, verses 25 to 37.

### **The Parable of the Good Samaritan**

<sup>25</sup> On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

<sup>26</sup> "What is written in the Law?" he replied. "How do you read it?"

<sup>27</sup> 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 neighbour as yourself.'"

<sup>28</sup> "You have answered correctly," Jesus replied. "Do this and you will live."

<sup>29</sup> But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbour?"

<sup>30</sup> In reply Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. <sup>31</sup> A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. <sup>32</sup> So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. <sup>33</sup> But a Samaritan, as he travelled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. <sup>34</sup> He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine.

Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. <sup>35</sup> The next day he took out two denarii 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.'

<sup>36</sup> "Which of these three do you think was a neighbour to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?"

<sup>37</sup> The expert in the law replied, "The one who had mercy on him."

Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise."

**Talk:** When we talk about neighbours, we are usually talking about people who either live next door to us or at least in the same street or area. In the time of Jesus, these people would have probably been family or close friends. However, Jesus's reply to 'Who is my neighbour' is to tell the story of the 'good Samaritan'. The Samaritans were neighbours with the Jews, in that they lived in neighbouring territories, but they historically hated each other and avoided each other at best. In fact, they even went the long route around rather than cross into each other's neighbourhood. The reason is quite complicated, as things like this often appear to be, but basically, they had different ways of doing things and different beliefs, the Jews being very strict about their religion, and the Samaritans strict about other parts of theirs. Of course, none of these things should have created the trouble it did, unfortunately adults often make things seem much worse than they really are.

As both the Jews and Samaritans worshipped God, I think that God would have been sad that they couldn't just bury their differences and get along, this may be why Jesus tells the story.

Can you think of any modern-day people who are similar, who both worship God, but don't get along with each other? I'm afraid I can. Wouldn't it be great if we could all get on well with each other and be good neighbours?

As the Acts 435 contact for our church, I am privileged to be able to help some of our 'neighbours', people who don't necessarily come to Sunday church but who we are 'neighbours' with through either Messy Church, or another children and family group. Acts 435 makes this possible by posting the request around the country so that people who can help see it and give some of their money to help. Acts 4 verse 35 says that the new Christians shared all they had with each other and gave to each person the things that they needed, so that no one went without.

What a different world it would be if we all did these two things, loved others and shared out what we had fairly?

Let's talk to God now.

Help us, Lord, to go from this place  
with kindness, care, compassion,  
and, like the Samaritan,  
to be a good neighbour.  
Help us always to look for the right thing to  
do.

**Amen.**

And now may the grace of the Lord Jesus  
Christ (Hold out your hands as if receiving a  
present)

The Love of God (Cross your hands over your  
heart)

And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit (hold  
hands together)

Be with us all, now and for evermore, Amen.  
(Bring thumbs together).

Let's finish by saying the grace together:

Here's a link for the children's sheet: [activity-sheet-10-july-2022.pdf \(rootsontheweb.com\)](https://www.rootsontheweb.com/activity-sheet-10-july-2022.pdf)

And here's an action song to dance and sing along to, 'I wanna be like you':  
<https://youtu.be/RlxxuTV-5vk>