

Are You My Neighbor?



What is the STORY about?

The parable of The Good Samaritan comes to life in “The Story of Flibber-o-loo,” the feature story in *Are You My Neighbor?* The two make-believe towns of Flibber-o-loo and Jibberty-lot are feuding because each town is a little different. Flibbians like to wear shoes on their heads, and Jibberty-lots like to wear pots on their heads. In the end, the citizens of both towns work out their differences because of the loving act of one little asparagus who knows that God wants us to love one another, regardless of our differences. Through rhyme and song, kids learn that loving your neighbor means helping those in need—even if they don’t live next door!

- *A Lesson in Loving Your Neighbor*
- *Key Passage: Luke 10:25-37*
- *Running time: 10 minutes*
- *Bonus Show: “The Gourds Must be Crazy” (13 minutes)*



What do you THINK?

- *Why were the citizens of Flibber-o-loo and Jibberty-lot feuding and throwing shoes and pots at each other? (Because they were different. Flibbians liked to wear shoes on their heads and Jibberty-lots liked to wear pots)*
- *Why couldn’t the mayor and a doctor from Flibber-o-loo help the Flibbian cucumber who fell in the hole? (They were too busy)*
- *What simple act of kindness caused the citizens of both towns to work out their differences? (The little asparagus helped the cucumber in the hole, even though he was from a different town)*
- *When the citizens of Flibber-o-loo and Jibberty-lot became friends, what did they throw at each other? (Candy and flowers)*



What does the BIBLE say?

The story of The Good Samaritan is found in the Bible in Luke 10:25-37. Read the story to the children from a Bible translation that is easy for them to understand OR tell it in this condensed version.

A teacher of the law was trying to test Jesus. “You have said that you must love your neighbor as yourself. But who is my neighbor?” Jesus answered the teacher with a story. “A man was traveling on the road from Jerusalem to Jericho when some robbers attacked him. They beat the man and took everything that he had. He was badly bleeding and hardly breathing when they left him. A priest came by, but when he saw the man on the ground, he walked by on the other side of the road. Next, a temple worker came by. He went over and looked at the injured man and then walked to the other side of the road. Then a Samaritan came traveling down the road. The Jewish people and the Samaritans did not like each other. But when this Samaritan saw the injured man, he stopped and helped him. He felt sorry for him, and he bandaged his wounds. He even took the man to an inn and paid the bill for him to stay.” Then Jesus asked, “Which one of these three men do you think was a neighbor to the traveler who was attacked by robbers?” The teacher of the law said that the one who had mercy was a neighbor to the traveler. Then Jesus said, “Go and do the same.”

The Story of The Good Samaritan



ACTIVITY

Retell the story of The Good Samaritan with the children playing the roles of the characters. Assign individuals to portray:

- TRAVELER
- ROBBERS
- TEMPLE WORKER
- SAMARITAN
- PRIEST

Repeat the story if necessary so that everyone has an opportunity to participate in this role-playing activity. Encourage discussion about reasons why the priest, temple worker, and Samaritan did or did not stop to help the traveler.



What can we DO?

Ask for examples of ways in which we can be Good Samaritans in real-life circumstances—especially when it isn't the popular thing to do. Encourage discussion about the following situations:

- *Emily is having a birthday party and invited all but two girls from her class. The two girls are not in Emily's "group" and probably wouldn't have money to buy a present anyway. Emily is starting to feel badly because she knows the two girls felt "left out" when they heard her friends talking about the party. What should Emily do?*
- *Logan knows that Ryan makes fun of everyone. He laughs when someone strikes out and calls people "baby" if they do not catch the ball. Today Ryan took a nasty fall when he tripped on his shoestring. Nobody likes Ryan because he is so mean, so no one helps him even though he is crying and holding his knee. What should Logan do?*

Help the children find these Bible verses to read aloud.

- Matthew 19:19
- Mark 12:31
- Luke 10:27
- Romans 13:9
- Galatians 5:14
- James 2:8

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Things to remember about The Good Samaritan

1. **ROBBERS** beat the traveler and left him for dead
2. A **LOVING NEIGHBOR** (the Samaritan) was the only one who stopped to help
3. **HELPING OTHERS** is what Jesus wants us to do

KEY VERSE

(Leviticus 19:18) "... love your neighbor as yourself."

KEY NUGGET

Treat others as you would want to be treated.

