

Lesson #3-24

Only One Thing: The Samaritan and Martha and Mary

Luke 10:25-42

PK-2nd

Key Verse:

“Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?” He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”

Luke 10:36-37

The Point:

God’s kingdom appears in unexpected and boundary-breaking acts of mercy and discipleship.

Making Connections:

Journey to the Cross

Bible Nuts & Bolts:

Culture/Customs

Spiritual Practice:

Service



Activities a la Carte

Activities

Supplies

Story Centers (PK-K)

15 min.

Helping Others Heal

Practice service by helping something heal.

Taking Care

Who takes care of you?

Loving Jesus

Make a reminder of loving Jesus.

- † Stuffed animals
- † Bandages

- † Play dough

- † Craft sticks
- † Crayons
- † Glue

Into the Story (PK-2nd)

Who Shows Mercy

Think about who shows us love and kindness.

5 min.

- † Bible
- † Photos of people who show love, kindness, and mercy

Bible Nuts and Bolts (1st-2nd)

Culture and Customs

How are culture and customs connected to the story?

10 min.

- † Globe or map

Learning the Story (PK-2nd)

The Samaritan and Martha and Mary

Hear and respond to the story.

15 min.

- † Activity Sheet #3-24.A

Activities a la Carte

Living the Story (PK-2nd)

Helping Hands

Consider ways you can love God and serve other people.

15 min.

† Mural paper
† Crayons

Singing the Story (PK-2nd)

Jesus Loves Me

Sing the song "Jesus Loves Me".

5 min.

† None

Additional Activities

Who Is My Neighbor? (PK-2nd)

Play a game to remember who our neighbors are.

10 min.

† None

Re-tell the Story (1st-2nd)

Re-tell the story to the group.

15 min.

† Optional: costumes or props

Begin a Journey to the Cross (PK-2nd)

Begin a class journey toward the cross.

10 min.

† Activity Sheet #3-24.B
† Scissors
† Pencil or pen
† Tape or stapler

Sending the Story (PK-2nd)

10 min.

† Large cross
† Stickers



Background for Teachers

Story Connections

Last week we explored the story of the transfiguration in Luke 9:28-45. In that story, God's glory is revealed through Jesus' transfiguration on the mountaintop, witnessed by some of the disciples. In the verses between last week's and this week's readings, God's glory is revealed through the casting out of demons and healing, done by both Jesus and those whom Jesus sends out. Today we begin Lent and our journey to the cross. We will explore other ways in which God's glory and kingdom are revealed in the world.

Story Summary:

Only One Thing: The Samaritan and Martha and Mary

Today's lesson includes two stories. The first is the parable of the Good Samaritan. A lawyer questions Jesus, asking him who is considered a neighbor. Jesus responds by telling a parable about a man travelling from Jerusalem to Jericho. The man is hurt by robbers who leave him on the side of the road. A priest and a Levite walk by and do not stop to help him. However, a Samaritan stops and cares for the man, taking him to an inn and paying for his stay. When Jesus asks which person helped the hurt man, the lawyer responds by answering, "the Samaritan." Jesus tells the lawyer that we should "go and do likewise" to others.

Then, the story transitions to the story of Martha and Mary. Jesus enters Mary and Martha's house. Mary sits at Jesus' feet as he is talking, while Martha is busy with tasks around the house. When she questions Mary's choice to sit next to Jesus, he responds that Martha is worried with too many things. Instead, Martha should focus on one thing: being a disciple of Jesus!

The Point

God's kingdom appears in unexpected and boundary-breaking acts of mercy and discipleship. Our stories today remind us that God's kingdom appears through compassion, mercy, and kindness. Sometimes showing compassion, mercy, and kindness can be difficult, especially when we are called to love someone who is different from us. However, mercy and discipleship can break down the barriers that divide us from God and from one another.

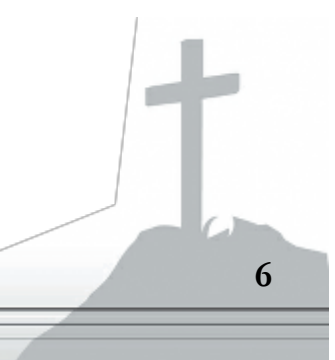
Bible Nuts and Bolts:

Culture/Customs

Both culture and customs are illustrated in today's stories. In the parable of the Good Samaritan, it is significant that the man who shows mercy and kindness is a Samaritan. Because of cultural differences, the Samaritans and the Jewish people did not get along. In the story of Mary and Martha, Jesus enters the home of two women who show him the custom of hospitality. Mary also sits at the feet of Jesus, a practice traditionally done when a rabbi is teaching. These customs are ground-breaking in that Mary and Martha are taking on two traditionally male roles, breaking traditional boundaries through their acts of love and discipleship.

Spiritual Practice: Service

Serving God and serving others are ways in which we can engage in the boundary-breaking acts of mercy and discipleship. In today's story, the Good Samaritan serves the hurt man by helping him heal. Then, Mary and Martha serve Jesus, though in different ways: Martha by providing hospitality, and Mary by listening to him teach.



Lesson Plan



Story Centers (PK-K; 15 minutes)

Story Centers are mini-activities designed specifically for preschool and kindergarten students. Depending on the size of your class, you can set these up as centers for in-class rotations or do them as a whole class one after another. In most preschool and kindergarten classes, these centers along with a snack, the “Learning the Story” activity, and the “Living the Story” activity will fill the education time, but feel free to choose any activity you think would be fun and appropriate for your class.

Helping Others Heal

The teacher provides stuffed animals and bandages. Students will practice showing mercy by taking care of the stuffed animals. Students will do this by wrapping the bandages around the animals.

Taking Care

The teacher provides play dough. Students will consider a person who shows them mercy and kindness when that person takes care of them. Then, they use the dough to make a sculpture of the caring person.

Loving Jesus

The teacher provides craft sticks, glue, and crayons. Students will make crosses using the craft sticks.

Into the Story (PK-2nd; 5 minutes)

Who Shows Mercy

Think about who shows us love and kindness.

You will need:

- † Bible
- † Photos of people who show love, kindness, and mercy

During class:

1. Show students a Bible. **Today we are going to hear two stories from the Bible. In both of these stories, people show how they love God and love others by being kind. I know many people who love others by being kind, too!**
2. Share each of the photos you have collected. For each photo, explain who the person is, and how they have shown you love and kindness.
3. **Sometimes, we use the word “mercy” to describe how someone loves another person. When someone shows mercy, they show kindness and love. Who are some of the people who love you and show you mercy?** *[Parents, grandparents, friends, siblings, teachers, etc.]*

Bible Nuts and Bolts (1st-2nd; 10 minutes)

Culture and Customs

How are culture and customs connected to the story?

You will need:

- † Globe or map

During class:

1. Show students the globe or map.
2. **Our world is big! It is filled with so many different people. These different people all live in different parts of the world. Different people who live in different countries sometimes practice different traditions or have different celebrations, because they live in a different culture. Let's make a list of what we know about the culture in different countries!**
3. Invite students to share what they know about different cultures. If possible, invite them to point out the different countries they are talking about on the map or globe.
4. **Do you think it is easy or hard to love another person who comes from a different culture? Why?**
5. **We will hear about people who come from different cultures in our stories today, too. We will also hear about how these different cultures and their customs change the way the people in the story love each other.**

Learning the Story (PK-2nd; 15 minutes)

The Samaritan and Martha and Mary

Hear and respond to the story.

You will need:

- † Copies of Activity Sheet #3-24.A

Before class:

1. Make a copy of Activity Sheet #3-24.A for each student.

During class:

1. Teach students the refrain to the story on Activity Sheet #3-24.A. Practice saying the refrain together.
2. Tell the story on the Activity Sheet, inviting students to say the refrain at the appropriate times.
3. If you have time, read through the story a second time. You may also wish to invite older students to re-tell the story to you.
4. **Who showed mercy to the hurt man?** [*The Samaritan.*] **How did he show mercy?** [*By wrapping him in bandages, taking him to an inn, and paying for his stay.*]
5. **When Jesus comes to Mary and Martha's house, what does Mary do?** [*She sits and listens to him talk.*] **What does Martha do?** [*She keeps herself busy and doesn't stop to listen.*]
6. **Which characters in the story showed that they loved Jesus and loved other people?** [*The Samaritan, Mary, and Martha.*]



Living the Story (PK-2nd; 15 minutes)

Helping Hands

Consider ways you can serve God and serve other people.

You will need:

- † Mural paper
- † Crayons

During class:

1. **In today's story, we are reminded that we can love God and love others. One way we can do this is by serving others! What are some ways that people in the story loved God and loved others by serving them?** *[Answers will vary, but may include: the Samaritan took care of the hurt man, Mary listened to Jesus teach, Martha took care of Jesus while he was in her home, etc.]*
2. **There are many ways we can love God and love others by serving them. Let's share some ways we can serve others.**
3. Instruct each student to trace both of their handprints on the mural paper. For younger students, you may need to help them trace their hands.
4. On the inside of one handprint, students should illustrate a way in which they can serve God. On the other handprint, students should illustrate a way in which they can serve another person.
5. After students are finished creating, invite them to share their drawings.



Singing the Story (PK-2nd; 5 minutes)

Jesus Loves Me

Sing the song “*Jesus Loves Me*”

During class:

1. **In today’s story, we hear about people who show love and mercy to others. Jesus shows us love and mercy, too! Let’s remember this by singing “Jesus Loves Me” together.**
2. Sing the song below:

“Jesus Loves Me”

Jesus loves me, this I know;
For the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong,
They are weak, but he is strong.
Yes! Jesus loves me!
Yes! Jesus loves me!
Yes! Jesus loves me!
The Bible tells me so.

Additional Activities

Who's My Neighbor? (PK-2nd; 10 minutes)

Play a game to remember who our neighbors are.

You will need:

- † Nothing

During class:

1. **In the story of the Good Samaritan, we learn that we should love our neighbor. But who is our neighbor? Let's play a game to find out!**
2. If needed, ask students to share their names so that everyone is familiar with everyone in your class.
3. Divide students into two teams. Instruct teams to line up so that they are standing back-to-back with the other team.
4. On the count of three, students should turn around and say the name of the person who is facing them, as loud as they can.
5. Mix up the groups and create two new teams. Instruct the teams to line up so that they are standing back-to-back.
6. On the count of three, students should turn around and say the name of the new person who is facing them, as loud as they can.
7. Students should turn around and say the name of the new person show is facing them.
8. Continue mixing up the teams and playing the game until you run out of time.
9. **In this game, who were some of your neighbors?** *[Students should share the names of the people they stood next to while playing the game.]*
10. **Do you think we should only love these people? Why or why not?** *[No! We should love everyone.]*
11. **In today's story, who showed kindness and mercy to his neighbor?** *[The Samaritan.]*
12. **Who are some neighbors who are not in this class to whom you can show kindness this week?** *[Family, friends, classmates, teammates, siblings, etc.]*

Re-tell the Story (1st-2nd; 15 minutes)

Re-tell the story to the group.

You will need:

- † Optional: costumes or props

During class:

1. Divide students into small groups of three or four each.
2. Ask each group to create a skit that re-tells today's story.
3. Give groups time to practice their skits. If you are using props or costumes, make them available for use.
4. After groups have practiced their skits, invite them to share their skits with the rest of the class.
5. **Our story today has many important themes and lessons. What are some of the important things we have learned?** *[We should love our neighbor, we can show mercy to others, we can love God by listening to God's teaching, etc.]*
6. **How can you share these things with other people?** *[Telling them the story, showing them kindness, showing them mercy, etc.]*



Begin a Journey to the Cross (PK-2nd; 10 minutes)

Begin a class journey toward the cross.

You will need:

- † Copies of Activity Sheet #3-24.B
- † Scissors
- † Pencil or pen
- † Tape or stapler

Before class

1. Make copies of Activity Sheet #3-24.B. You should make enough copies so that each student can have at least one cross.
2. For younger students, you may wish to cut the crosses out.
3. Find a large empty wall or bulletin board where you can post crosses. Ideally, these should be posted in a place where your whole church community can see them.

During class:

1. **For the next few weeks, we are going to hear some stories that help us prepare to learn about Jesus on Good Friday and Easter. Each week, we are going to share what we have learned from these stories and create a group project that shows what we are learning on our journey to the cross.**
2. Give each student a cross from Activity Sheet #3-24.B. Students should cut out the cross (if it is not pre-cut).
3. On the cross, students should write one thing they learned from the day's lesson. For younger students, you may need to write on the cross for them.
4. Invite students to share what they have written on their crosses.
5. Create a display of crosses by taping them on a wall, or stapling them to a bulletin board. Create a sign that says "Journey to the Cross: What We Have Learned" to hang on the display.

Sending the Story (PK-2nd; 5 minutes)

Prayer

You will need:

- † Large cross
- † Stickers

During class:

1. Invite students to sit in a circle around a large cross. Give each student a sticker.
2. One at a time, invite students to the cross. Standing by the cross, they should share one way they can show mercy and discipleship by loving God and loving others. Then, each student should place their sticker on the cross.
3. Close with a prayer. Pray the following, or use your own prayer.

Dear God, thank you for loving us. Thank you for showing us kindness and mercy. Help us show kindness and mercy to other people, and help us love you more every day. Amen.

The Samaritan and Martha and Mary

Hear and respond to the story.

One day, a lawyer asked Jesus what he should do so that he can live forever. Jesus asked the man, “What does the law say?” The man said,

Love God, and love our neighbor.

Jesus told the lawyer that he was correct. But, the lawyer had another question: “Who is my neighbor?” So, Jesus told him a story about a man walking from Jerusalem to Jericho. While the man was walking some people came up to him and hurt him. They did not remember that we should:

Love God, and love our neighbor.

They hurt the man and left him on the side of the road. A priest walked by the man, but didn’t help him. Then another church leader walked by, but did not stop to help. Finally, a Samaritan walked by. He saw the man, and showed him mercy. The Samaritan remembered that we should:

Love God, and love our neighbor.

The Samaritan cared for the hurt man. He took care of the man’s wounds. Then, he put the man on his donkey and took him to an inn. The Samaritan paid the innkeeper to take care of him. By showing him mercy, the Samaritan remembered that we are asked to:

Love God, and love our neighbor.

After he told this story, Jesus traveled to the home of Mary and Martha. Mary and Martha were very excited to see Jesus! Martha spent a lot of time preparing for his visit. She put a lot of work into welcoming him into their home. Mary, on the other hand, spent the whole time sitting at Jesus’ feet, listening to him talk. Martha was not happy that Mary was doing this. She thought that being busy was the best way for them to:

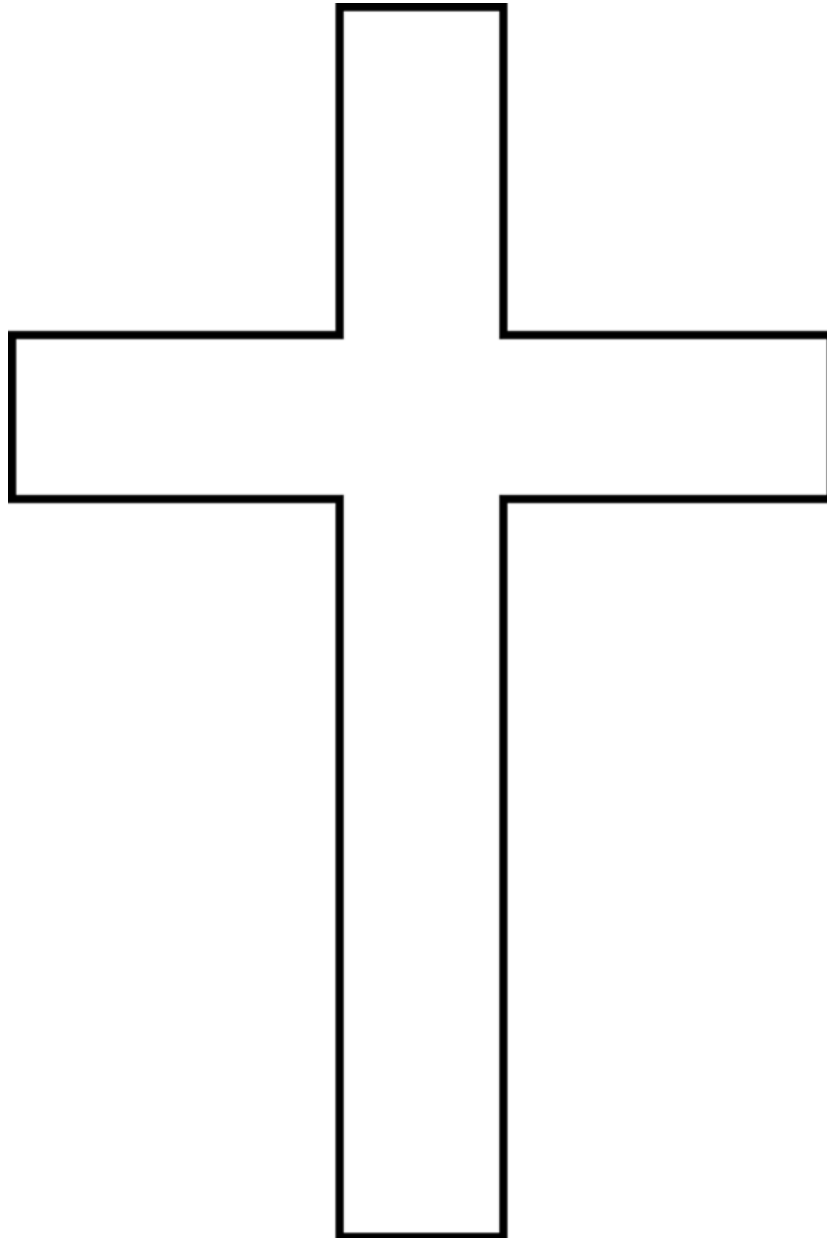
Love God, and love our neighbor.

But Jesus reminded Martha about something important! He told Martha that she was worrying about too many things. Instead, she should do what Mary was doing: sitting and listening to Jesus. Jesus said that Mary was choosing the better thing to do. She was choosing to:

Love God, and love our neighbor.

Begin a Journey to the Cross

Begin a class journey toward the cross.





PK-2nd

The Story @ Home

Living the Word: Teaching Kids God's Story
Narrative Lectionary, Year 3 (2016-2017)

Lesson #3-24
Luke 10:25-42

*The
Point*

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responds by answering, "the Samaritan." Jesus tells the lawyer that we should "go and do likewise" to others.

Then, the story transitions to the story of Martha and Mary. Jesus enters Mary and Martha's house. Mary sits at Jesus' feet as he is talking, while Martha is busy with tasks around the house. When she questions Mary's choice to sit next to Jesus, he responds that Martha is worried with too many things. Instead, Martha should focus on one thing: being a disciple of Jesus!

Spiritual Practice: Service

Serving God and serving others are ways in which we can engage in the boundary-breaking acts of mercy and discipleship. This week, engage in an act of service as a family. Volunteer some time together, or find ways to serve one another in your own home. If possible, use this opportunity to serve a person with whom your family does not normally connect.

Last Week/Next Week

Last week, we heard the story of Jesus' transfiguration in Luke 9:51-62. At the end of this story, a voice from a cloud instructs the disciples to listen to Jesus. This week's stories provide us ways in which we can do that! Next week, we will hear Jesus preach repentance in Luke 13:1-9 and 31-35. This story will give us more ways in which we can listen to Jesus.

Bible Nuts and Bolts: Culture/Customs

Both culture and customs are illustrated in today's stories. In the parable of the Good Samaritan, it is significant that the man who shows mercy and kindness is a Samaritan. Because of cultural differences, the Samaritans and the Jewish people did not get along. In the story of Mary and Martha, Jesus enters the home of two women, who show him the custom of hospitality. Mary also sits at the feet of Jesus, a practice traditionally done when a rabbi is teaching. These customs are ground-breaking in that Mary and Martha are taking on two traditionally male roles, breaking traditional boundaries through their acts of love and discipleship.

Family Discussions

As you hear and study these stories each week, consider what God has to say to you and your family. Help your children to imagine what it would have been like to be the people contained in the stories. What is God's message to them—and to us?

- ✚ Do you think it was easy or hard for the Samaritan to show mercy? Why?
- ✚ Why do you think the Samaritan decided to help the hurt man?
- ✚ Why do you think Mary decided to listen to Jesus, instead of help Martha?

Family Devotions

As you hear and study these stories each week, consider what God has to say to you and your family. What is God's message to us? Consider the following basic pattern as a way of forming family devotions: Light a candle to help you focus this time as "God time." Pray a simple prayer together. Take a moment to check in with each other; what are each person's "highs" and "lows" today? Read aloud from the Daily Readings below. Discuss the questions following each. End with a blessing, by simply tracing a cross on each other's forehead. If you used a candle, extinguish it as a sign of the end of the devotion time. [Note: This is only a suggested pattern. It will vary with YOUR household's context and patterns. What works best for you?]

Sunday—Read Luke 10:25-42

Today's two stories remind us that we can share God's kingdom through mercy and discipleship. Discuss the following question: If you could be any character in the story, which would you be? Why?

Monday—Read Leviticus 19:13-18

This passage instructs us to love and forgive others. Share about a time when you needed to forgive another person. Is it easy or hard to forgive others? Why?

Tuesday—Read Romans 13:8-10

We are called to love one another just like we would love ourselves. Surprise another member of your family by doing a chore, sharing with them, or giving them something.

Wednesday—Read Luke 11:1-13

Jesus teaches us how to pray for ourselves and for others. Sit in a circle and light a candle. Ask each person to pray aloud for one person who needs comfort or love.

Thursday—Read Matthew 6:5-13

This passage reminds us that sometimes it is okay for us to be alone with God. Say the Lord's Prayer together (or, teach it to your family if you are unfamiliar with it!). Encourage each family member to say it before they fall asleep tonight.

Friday—Read Luke 12:22-34

Jesus tells us that we should not worry because God loves us and will provide for us. Take a walk and ask each person to find a stone. Hold the stone in your hand and thank God for all the good things we are given.

Saturday—Read Philippians 4:4-9

Paul brings peace and hope to the Philippians by reminding them that we should rejoice in the Lord. Sing a favorite hymn, worship, or Sunday school song as a family. Then, end your devotion time by sharing God's peace with each other!