

## Help Spread the Gospel: *Love Your Neighbor*

### LESSON AT A GLANCE

#### Facilitator Notes:

- While similar to the takeaways in H7, this discussion looks at caring for others using the example of the Good Samaritan. Loving and caring for others is an expression that Jesus loves and cares for them.
- Sermon clips are available in the [NAC USA mobile app](#) *and* in the app web player (link in the list to the right)

#### I wonder...

- To whom am I to show love and care?
- How am I expected to love and care for others?

#### I believe...

- I should love and care for my neighbor, who is anyone in need of kindness. (Catechism Q&A questions 155, 287)
- I am expected to do all that I can to help those who are suffering. (Catechism Q&A questions 285, 286)

#### Materials:

- IGNITE Bible
- Catechism Q&A
- Chief Apostle sermon clip 18, Love Your Neighbor <http://subspla.sh/f2bo685>
- Notebook Paper
- White board and markers (if necessary)
- [www.nac-usa.org](http://www.nac-usa.org) article [Bridging the Gaps](#)

#### References:

- Catechism Q&A questions 155, 285-288
- Bible: Luke 10: 25-37, John 13: 34-35

### PRE DISCUSSION MESSAGE TO PARENTS AND STUDENT (TO BE SENT VIA EMAIL OR TEXT)

How often do you want to help someone but never follow through? Why might that be?

### POST DISCUSSION MESSAGE TO PARENTS (TO BE SENT VIA EMAIL OR TEXT)

#### Facilitator Notes:

- Please feel free to add local information and customize as necessary.

Dear Parents,

This week the "I Wonder...." questions are about loving our neighbor: who should we show love to and how we are expected to love and care for others, Talk with your student about a time you helped someone you may not have known. Take time to have a discussion about why you chose to help this person and how this made you feel. As always, if you have questions about the topic, please feel free to contact us.

Your Youth Leaders

<b>SUNDAY SERMON REFLECTIONS (up to 10 minutes)</b>	
<b>Facilitator Notes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Allow 2-3 students to share their reflections. For larger groups, vary who shares from week to week.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ What Bible verse was used for the basis of last Sunday's sermon?</li> <li>➤ What were some of the main takeaways? What did you learn?</li> <li>➤ So far this week, how have you applied what you learned from the sermon last Sunday?</li> <li>➤ Going forward, how will you apply what you learned from the sermon last Sunday?</li> </ul>
<b>HOOK (up to 15 minutes)</b>	
<b>Facilitator Notes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Allow 2-3 students to share their reflections. For larger groups, vary who shares from week to week.</li> <li>The prompts can be displayed in a number of ways. Some examples include: PowerPoint slides (one prompt for each slide), write them on the board, or simply say them aloud.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ How are you and how are you feeling today?</li> <li>➤ Who would like to share their point to ponder or call to action from last week?</li> <li>➤ Have students make individual lists of the people in their lives that they consider to be their neighbors.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Some students might have a deeper understanding of what a neighbor is and will include people that are not extremely close to them.</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ Give the students four prompts to think about as they examine their lists of names. Give students about 10 seconds to think and answer each of the prompts.</li> <li>➤ Prompts:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Circle</b> all of the people you truly care about on your list.</li> <li>○ <b>Underline</b> all of the people you would be willing to help at a moment's notice if they were hurt even if you were busy at the time.</li> <li>○ <b>Put a star</b> next to all of the people you would help even if you weren't getting along with them at the time.</li> <li><b>Put a heart</b> next to the names you would stand up for if they were being bullied or treated unfairly.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As a reminder, students do not need to share their responses or read are not comfortable doing so.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Have the students review their lists and the symbols they have drawn. Ask these follow-up questions and discuss .               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Did anyone on your list have all four symbols? Why is that?</li> <li>○ Did anyone on your list not have any symbols? Why do you think that is?</li> <li>○ As you were responding to the prompts, did you focus on the names you knew or the names you didn't?</li> <li>○ When you were read the prompts, was there anyone on your list you had to think twice about before making a symbol next to their name?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

### SET THE STAGE (1 minute)

#### Facilitator Notes:

- Preview the "I wonder" questions with the students.

#### I wonder...

- To whom am I to show love and care?
- How am I expected to love and care for others?

### LESSON (up to 25 minutes)

#### Facilitator Notes:

- **Luke 10:25-37** - Not included due to length.
- Have students take turns reading the parable out loud for the whole class. A good way to do this would be to have each student read 2-3 verses depending on the number of students in attendance.
- If a student would not like to read, do not force them to. Simply go on to the next student.
- After reading through the parable, you can reference Catechism Q&A question 155.

#### Read the parable of the Good Samaritan with the students in Luke 10:25-37.

- Once the group has finished reading, summarize the parable with the students.
- Take 2-3 minutes and open up a discussion on why each of the 3 men in the parable might have responded the way they did.
  - Having the students think about the "why" behind a person's actions will begin to open their hearts on the topic of why we should be helping others.
- Have students put themselves in this exact situation and think for 2 minutes about how they would react to the Jew on the side of the road. Would they be like the priest, the Levite, or the Samaritan? As they are collecting their thoughts, ask them to explain why they think they would be most like that person. Remind the students to be honest with themselves while reflecting.
- Give the students another 2 minutes to turn and talk to a neighbor to share their thoughts.
- Come back as a whole group and ask students to share their thoughts and reasoning.
  - Sharing your own thoughts might be a good way to start the conversation and will lead the students to the type of conversation you wish to have.
- Pose the following questions:
  - Would you feel differently about helping the hurt man if he was someone you knew and cared about? If you would, why?
  - Why is it easier to help someone we know and are close to?
  - Are there certain people we wouldn't help?

#### Student Question #1: Who are we supposed to care for and show love to?

- Read the "Get It" portion of the Spotlight in the IGNITE Bible on page 1063 with the students.
- Afterwards, have the students reference their original list of neighbors they created. We need to love everyone we come into contact with and not just our friends and family.

**John 13: 34-35:** A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.

**Student Question #2: How can we become more like the Good Samaritan?**

- Jesus made it very clear to us. We need to follow the principles of the “golden rule” and love and treat everyone as we would like to be treated (Catechism Q&A question 288).
- In John 13: 34-35, God gave us the new commandment: to love one another as He has loved us. Even though we don't always deserve it, God has always stayed with us and helps us whenever we are in need. God is our Good Samaritan.
- By helping others and loving our neighbor as ourselves, we are truly spreading the gospel. He taught us to love one another and we must follow this teaching.

**Student Question #3: Is it harder to help someone that is different than you are? Why or why not?**

- Some examples that could be used to dive deeper into the question could be: those that are homeless, those that are a different race, those that speak a different language, etc.

**Bridging the Gaps**

- In the Pentecost 2020 service, Chief Apostle Schneider mentioned various gaps that can divide people. Since then, this topic has emerged and deepened in subsequent services and articles.
- [This webpage](#) was created to consolidate the various sermon clips and articles that the church has published regarding this topic.
- Please review the articles and clips before the youth discussion and incorporate them as appropriate.
- Additionally, consider including the Bridging the Gaps link in the follow up message to the parents, as those clips and articles may serve as conversation starters within the home.

## WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME? (up to 10 minutes)

### Facilitator Notes:

- Sermon clips are available in the [NAC USA mobile app](#) and in the app web player (link in the list to the right)

**Wrap up the lesson with why we must love one another, linking it to our desire to help spread the gospel.**

- If time allows, watch Chief Apostle sermon clip 18, Love Your Neighbor? <http://subspla.sh/f2bo685>

### **Close with the "I Believe..." questions**

- As you review each statement, stop and check in with the group to be sure there are no misunderstandings or misconceptions.
- Allow the students to state an "I Believe..." statement for each of the "I Wonder..." questions in their own words.
- Remind the students that on their Confirmation day, they will or have already promised and committed to surrendering themselves to God.

### **I wonder...**

- To whom am I to show love and care?
- How am I expected to love and care for others?

### **I believe...**

- My neighbor is anyone in need of kindness. (Catechism Q&A questions 155, 287)
- I am expected to do all that I can to help those who are suffering. (Catechism Q&A questions 285, 286)

### **Point to Ponder....**

- Refer back to the parable of the Good Samaritan and think about the 3 men who encountered the man on the side of the road. Even though Jews and Samaritans did not get along, he went above and beyond to help him.

### **A Call to Action....**

- This week, every time you see a person, remind yourself that this is someone that Jesus Christ died for. Jesus loves them, and so should you.

### Weekly Reflections

What Bible verse was used for the basis of last Sunday's sermon?

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What were some of the main takeaways? What did you learn?

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So far this week, how have you applied what you learned from the sermon last Sunday?

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Going forward, how will you apply what you learned from the sermon last Sunday?

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**Point to Ponder...**

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**Call to Action...**

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## Help Spread the Gospel: *Love Your Neighbor*

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<b>References:</b> Catechism Q&A questions 155, 285 – 288; Bible verses: Luke 10: 25-37, John 13: 34-35	

**Luke 10:25-37** And behold, a certain lawyer stood up and tested Him, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? What is your reading of it?" So he answered and said, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind,' and 'your neighbor as yourself.'" And He said to him, "You have answered rightly; do this and you will live." But he, wanting to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Then Jesus answered and said: "A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, who stripped him of his clothing, wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a certain priest came down that road. And when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. Likewise a Levite, when he arrived at the place, came and looked, and passed by on the other side.

But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was. And when he saw him, he had compassion. So he went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; and he set him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. On the next day, when he departed, he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said to him, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I come again, I will repay you.' So which of these three do you think was neighbor to him who fell among the thieves?"

### 1. Who are we supposed to care for and show love to?

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### 2. How can we become more like the Good Samaritan?

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### 3. Is it harder to help someone that is different than you are? Why or why not?

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**Point to Ponder:** Refer back to the parable of the Good Samaritan and think about the 3 men who encountered the man on the side of the road. Even though Jews and Samaritans did not get along, he went above and beyond to help him.

**Call to Action:** This week, every time you see a person, remind yourself that this is someone that Jesus Christ died for. Jesus loves them, and so should you.