

The opening session, usually taking place on the first evening, is an opportunity to introduce the theme for the weekend, “It’s time to do good!” The first evening is also a great time for a fun, silly, or ‘get to know you’ type game.

After providing any ground rules of the weekend and an overview of the weekend’s schedule of activities, reiterate the theme by exploring the Bible story of the Good Samaritan from Luke 10:25-37.

1. Opening Question (Icebreaker)

“Can you share a time when someone unexpectedly did something kind for you? How did it make you feel?”

2. Read the Story: Luke 10:25-37

Either read it aloud or act it out with volunteers. If acting it out, pause at key moments to ask what the characters might have been thinking.

3. Discussion Questions

These questions could be experienced as a large group, or youth can talk with their neighbor(s) and then regroup every few questions.

Understanding the Story

- Why do you think the priest and the Levite didn’t stop to help the injured man?
- What made the Samaritan’s actions so surprising? (Context: Jews and Samaritans didn’t get along.)
- How would you describe the Samaritan’s attitude toward the injured man?

Applying the Story

- Jesus asked, “*Who was the neighbor to the man?*” (Luke 10:36). How does this change the way we define who our “neighbor” is?
- What excuses do people use today to avoid helping others?
- Have you ever found it hard to help someone? What held you back?



Bringing It to Life

- In what ways can we be like the Good Samaritan in our **youth group**?
- How can we notice and help those in need in our **community**?
- What are some ways we can actively do good in our **congregation**?

4. Challenge & Takeaway

- This week, look for one way to be a Good Samaritan in your daily life—whether at school, home, or church.
- Keep a "Do Good" journal for the weekend, noting any acts of kindness you do or witness.

5. Closing Prayer

Ask God for open eyes to see where help is needed, courage to take action, and a heart that reflects His love.