

Bible Story 37: JESUS TELLS PARABLES

SCRIPTURE: Seventy-two Followers: Luke 10:1-2
Parable: "Good Samaritan" Luke 10:25-37
Parable: "Lost Son" Luke 15:11-32

MEMORY VERSE: Luke 10:27

BIBLE STORY:

One day Jesus chose seventy-two followers. Jesus told them that there was much work to do, but so few people to work. He asked them to pray for God to send more people to spread the Word of God. He sent them, two by two, to spread His message. When they returned, they were happy by the work that was accomplished.

On another day, a professor of the Law was wanting Jesus to contradict himself. So he asked, "**Jesus, what must I do to have life eternal?**" Jesus replied, "**What does the Word of God say?**" The man replied, "**Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, strength and intelligence. Also, love your neighbor as you love yourself.**" Then he asked Jesus, "**Who is my neighbor?**"

Jesus replied by telling this parable, a story.

A Jewish man was traveling from the city of Jerusalem to Jericho. On the road, some thieves robbed and beat him. Then they fled. The traveler was seriously hurt. Time passed and a priest came by, saw the man, but kept going. Time passed and a Levite (religious leader) came by, saw the man, but kept going. Time passed and a Samaritan man came and saw the injured traveler. (In those days, a Jewish man did not like Samaritans.) This Samaritan man felt sorry for the injured, Jewish man. So he bandaged his wounds, placed him on his donkey, and took him to a small lodging place. Before leaving, he gave the owner some money to take care of the Jewish man.

After telling the story, Jesus told the professor of the Law to imitate the good Samaritan.

Later Jesus told another parable.

A father had two sons. One day the younger son came to his father and asked for

his share of his inheritance. The man divided his inheritance between his two sons.

Soon afterwards the younger son left home, taking his share of the inheritance. He went to a country very far away where he wasted all his money in wild living. There was a very bad famine and the young man didn't have any money to buy food. He became so desperate that he finally took a job in a field feeding pods to pigs. He was so hungry that he even wanted to eat the pigs' food!

Then the young man remembered his father's home. All the servants there had plenty of food to eat. So he decided to go back home. He planned to tell his father that he had sinned against him and God. He would ask permission to stay home, working as a servant. So he started back home

From a distance, the father saw his younger son returning home. He ran to his son, hugged him and kissed him.

His son told his father that he had sinned against him and God, and he was no longer worthy to be called his son.

The father called his servants to bring his son the best clothes, a ring for his finger and sandals for his feet. He told them to kill and prepare the fatted calf and prepare a banquet. Why? Because his son, who was lost, has returned home safely.

When the older son came home he heard that a banquet was prepared for his younger brother. The older son would not join the banquet. The father went and spoke to his older son. He told him that all he had was his, but to come in and join the celebration, because his younger brother was lost and has come back home.

LIFE-LESSONS:

1. Jesus said to imitate the good Samaritan. Help others with their needs.
2. The young son left home, but later returned, asking his father for forgiveness. When you do something wrong against someone, ask that person to forgive you. God is our heavenly Father. When you disobey God's commandments, do something wrong and sin against God, ask God to forgive you. God loves you and will forgive you.
3. The older son would not join in the celebration when his younger brother returned home. His father told him to forgive and be happy his younger brother had returned home. Forgive people who wrong you.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What did Jesus ask his seventy-two followers to do?
2. What is the “Word of God”? What can you do to spread the Word of God?
3. Tell the parable of the Good Samaritan.
4. Why was it unusual that a Samaritan man would help a Jewish man?
5. What does the treatment of the Samaritan toward the Jewish man teach us?
6. Who are people you do not like? Would it be difficult to help them? Why? Should you help them? Why?
7. Tell the parable of the Lost Son.
8. Why was it unusual for a younger son to ask for his inheritance from his father?
9. Did his father give him the inheritance? What happened?
10. How did the father react when his younger son returned home?
11. What should you do when you do something wrong against someone? Against God?
12. How did the older son react when a banquet was given in honor of his younger brother? What did the father do? What did he say to his oldest son?
13. Why is it important to forgive someone who has done something wrong against you? What does forgiveness mean? Does forgiving mean to forget? Can you forgive but still be cautious? Why?

SUGGESTIONS FOR THIS BIBLE STORY:

Choose activities that may be used in your specific situation. Consider the age and maturity of each person, locality where the story will be told (customs and traditions), and available resources, time and space.

PRESENTATION:

STORY: “THE GOOD SAMARITAN”

– Ask: *“Do you know of someone who has been robbed? What happened? Have you ever been robbed? What happened?”*

– Using appropriate expressions, tell the Bible story of the Good Samaritan in your own words.

DRAMA:

After telling the story:

– Ask someone to retell the story as if he was the man that was robbed.

– Ask someone to retell the story as if he was the religious leader who did not help the injured man.

– Ask someone to retell the story as if he was the Samaritan man.

– Ask: *“What did you learn from this story? What are some ways you can help someone?”*

younger son.

– Ask someone to retell the story as if he was the father.

– Ask someone to retell the story as if he was the older son.

– Ask: *“What did you learn from this story?”*

VISITOR:

– **PARENTS:** Invite someone to come and talk to parents about relating with challenging children and teenagers.

– **ANY AGE GROUP:** Invite someone to come and talk about making wise choices.

Attention: Encouraging testimonies from teenagers can have an impact on other teenagers, children, etc.

CAMP FIRE

– Build a camp fire with wood or use a charcoal grill. Don't light the fire.

1st Each person writes down on paper wrongs that people have done to him.

2nd Each person prays silently, forgiving those who wronged him.

3rd Each person throws his papers on the pile of wood.

4th Leader starts the fire.

5th As the fire is burning, the leader prays that each person is released from the pain and anger of being wronged.

6th Celebrate by roasting and eating hot dogs, marshmallows, etc.

STORY: “THE LOST SON”

– Ask: *“Has anyone ever used your money unwisely? Or made an unwise decision? Would someone share with the group what happened?”*

– Using appropriate expressions, tell the Bible story of the Lost Son in your own words.

DRAMA:

After telling the story:

– Ask someone to retell the story as if he was the

DAILY BIBLE READING - Luke 10:1-2,25-37; 15:11-32; Ephesians 4:32

1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th
Luke 10:1-2	Luke 10:25-29	Luke 10:30-35	Luke 10:36-37	Luke 15:11-24	Luke 15:25-32	Ephesians 4:32