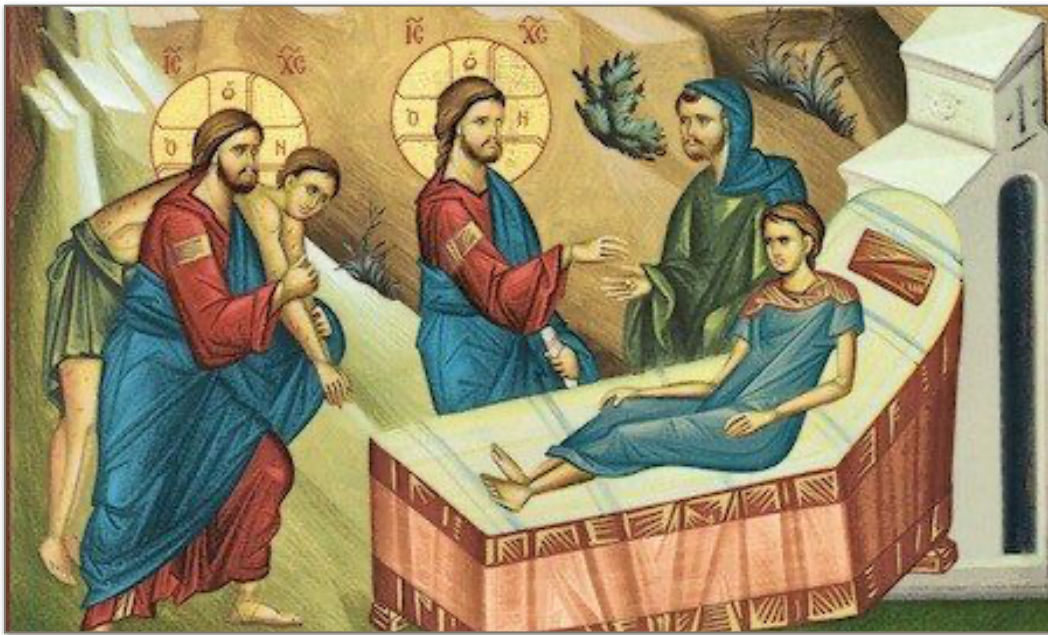


# THE GOOD SAMARITAN

THE LIFE OF CHRIST WITH SAINT LUKE



Icon from: [Orthodox Christianity Then and Now](#)

## PARABLE OF THE GOOD SAMARITAN

Orthodox Children's Bible Reader - pages 202 - 203

Tell the story to the kids either from the book or in your own words.

When telling stories to kids, it's important to keep them engaged and listening. You can do this by incorporating some techniques into your storytelling:

1

### GOAL

Who is our neighbor and how should we take care of them?

2

### AT CHURCH

Gospel reading  
Triodion: in the first week of the fast

3

### AT HOME

We care for those who are sick, injured, with ailments, or struggling with something.



Class routine:  
Move my photo from "home" to "church"



Class routine:  
Light a candle - respectfully prayerfully without playing



Class routine:  
Venerate our icon



Sing "Lord have mercy" in English, Greek, Arabic, Romanian

**Pre-Storytelling:** Go over unknown vocabulary *before* telling the story: A **Levite** is someone who helped in the temple. A **Samaritan** is someone who lived near Jerusalem. Samaritans did not get along very well with the Jews.

**The Grabber:** When kids are indifferent or easily distracted, it is hard to hold their attention during a story - give them a purpose to listen to your story. Start the story with a question or a suspenseful situation. **For example:** If you got really hurt and were laying on the ground unable walk, would you want someone to stop and take care of you? (*Yes!*) Well, we are going to hear about a man who was worried nobody was going to stop to help him. Let's find out if he gets help!

**What's going to happen next?** One of the trickiest parts of mastering the art of storytelling is keeping the story interesting the whole time. It's important to keep the kids wondering - What's going to happen next? **For example:** The first person to see the wounded man was a priest from the temple... but he didn't stop. Then a second man who helps out in the temple was getting closer...and closer... and closer to the wounded man. Surely, he will stop! What do you think? (*Let them answer*) Oh, no! He doesn't stop either. Is anyone going to stop for this man that is so badly hurt he can't even call



out to anyone for help? Let's see. Oh...a third man, who is from Samaria, is getting closer...and closer...and closer to the man hurt on the ground.

**Body Language:** Body movement and eye contact with the kids are important elements to storytelling. If you are interested or excited to find out what happens next, the kids tend to be also.

**For example:** This third man is different. He doesn't keep walking. This Samaritan thankfully walks over to the hurt man on the ground and immediately starts to clean his cuts! Yay! (*Clap your hands or throw your hands up in the air in excitement!*) Someone stopped!!!

**Encourage Interaction:** When kids get to participate, they pay attention better. **1)** You can ask them to guess what happens next. **2)** You can

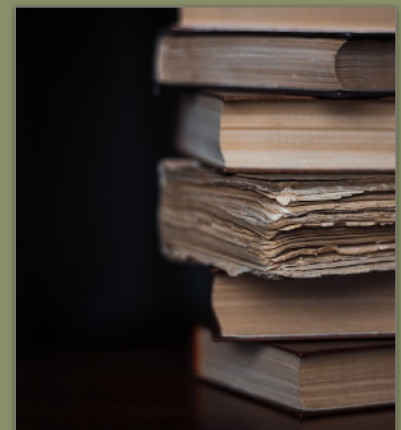
## EXTENDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

*The Parables* by Archbishop Dmitri, pgs 117-122

*The Gospel of Luke: Good News for the Poor* by Fr. Lawrence Farley, pgs 209-223

*The Explanation of the Holy Gospel According to Luke* by Blessed Theophylact, pgs 108-122

*Saint Arsenios the Cappadocian* by Saint Paisios of Mount Athos



have some of the kids acting out the story as you tell it - the robbers, the man who is wounded by the robbers, the priest, Levite, Samaritan, and innkeeper. The Samaritan can put bandaids on the wounded man before taking him to the inn.

**Connect Stories to Real Life:** Our kids need to know how to incorporate the parables into their own lives. **For example:** If your brother or sister got hurt, would you stop what you were doing to go tell mom or dad? If you fell and hit your knee so hard that you hurt too much to get up, would you want your brother or sister to come help you and bring you to mom? What about when your friend at church trips and falls while you're playing with them outside? What would you do - keep playing or go find their parents / your parents? What could you do if mom or dad is super sick? (*Bring them kleenex, a drink, snuggle them just like they snuggle you when you don't feel good - ask the kids for examples*) So, when you see anyone who is hurt or sick, are you going to walk by them and do nothing? (*No!*) Are you going to stop and help them? (*Yes!*)

## ICON: GOOD SAMARITAN

Take out the icon of the Good Samaritan and ask the children:

- Who can find the two men that walked past the wounded man and didn't help him?
- Who can find the man that stopped to help the hurt man? Who does the man that stopped to help look like to you? (*Jesus - You're right!*) Jesus came to help every single one of us!
- Did Jesus help the hurt man a little bit or a lot? How does the icon show that to us? (*Jesus is cleaning the hurt man's cuts. Jesus is carrying the hurt man to get help for him. Jesus brings the hurt man to a*

*place where he can rest and get better.*) Jesus teaches us this is how we're suppose to help others - by putting A LOT of effort into caring for them!

## SING: LORD, HAVE MERCY

When your students are comfortable singing, "Lord, have mercy" in English, teach them how to sing it in another language.

Start by having them pronounce one word at a time after you. Then practice singing in the new language, alternating with English, a few times.

You can also incorporate singing, "Lord, have mercy" each time you transition from one task to another. The kids will both quickly pick up that you are transitioning to something new and learn to sing at the same time!

- Audio recording of "Lord, have mercy" in 12 languages: <https://on.soundcloud.com/f4Ec>
- Audio recording of "Lord, have mercy" in 8 languages: <https://on.soundcloud.com/XWAJ>

# THE GOOD SAMARITAN

## AT HOME

### FOR PARENTS

**I**t is true that, wherever Father Arsenios went and sick people were brought to him for prayers to be read over them, he never asked whether they were Christian or Turk, but only what they were suffering from so that he could find the appropriate prayer. When he cured the sick, by the Grace of God, Father Arsenios helped the Turks understand the enormous value of our Orthodox faith and to revere it.

### Saint Paisios

*Saint Arsenios the Cappadocian*

How do our children learn to care for their neighbor? These lessons start very young as they watch us caring for one another - within our home, parish family, and for each person brought into our lives.

Our children learn how to lovingly tend to their neighbor, through our care for them, as we bring them medicine, drinks, something to eat, and snuggle next to them when they are sick.

They experience empathy and compassion when we tenderly treat their wounds with a disinfectant (*wine in the parable*), ointment (*oil in the parable*), and a bandage.

They learn how to care for others each and every time they see us tend to others (or experience for themselves): bringing food to someone at church, passing an unused winter coat through our car window to a homeless person on the corner, taking in a relative with a chronic or degenerative medical problem, visiting someone who is sick in the hospital, welcoming someone who needs a place to stay for a bit, “simply” listening to someone who needs to talk to someone about their problem or being a shoulder to cry on.

## HOME ACTIVITY #14

**Build a Care Kit:** What are some ways that your family takes care of one another when they are sick or injured? Place your family’s favorite items - tissues, tea, holy water, prayer book, cough drops, bandaids, ointment, etc - when you are sick or injured in a basket or bucket and let your kids take care of each other or you the next time anyone needs care.

**YouTube: Saint Arsenios the Cappadocian** - [Option 1](#); [Option 2](#); [Option 3](#)



Ἡ ΠΑΡΑΒΟΛὴ τοῦ ΚΑΛΟῦ ΣΑΜΑΡΕΪΤῆ

