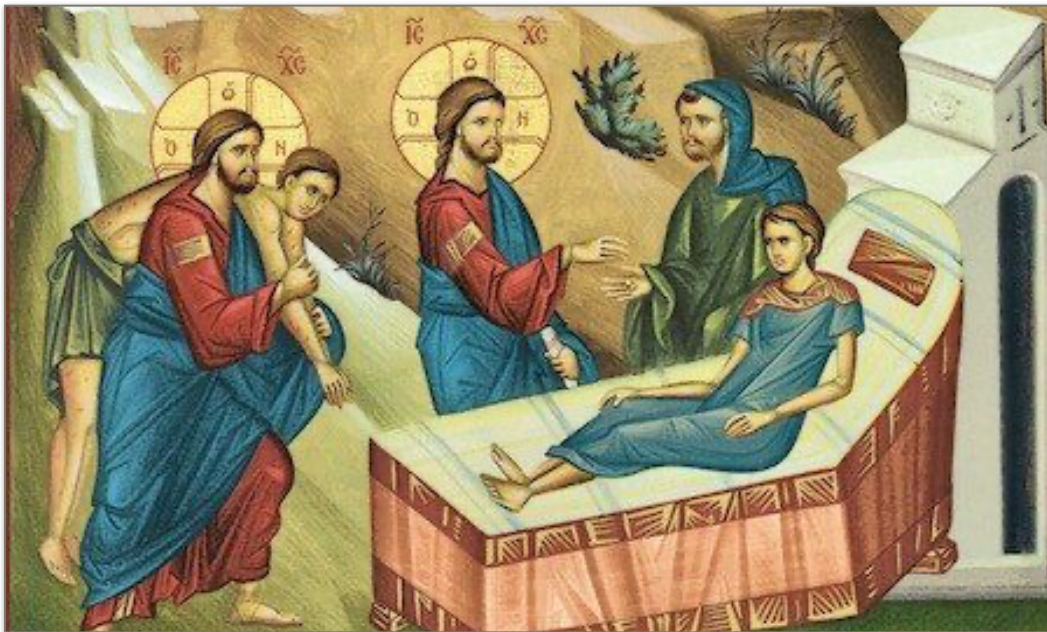


THE GOOD SAMARITAN

THE LIFE OF CHRIST WITH SAINT LUKE



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

THE 70 APOSTLES ARE SENT OUT

Luke 10:1-12

Jesus sends 70 apostles in groups of two to the surrounding cities to heal people in His name and to teach them about the Kingdom of Heaven. They are being sent in groups of two so they can encourage and support one another. Has there ever been a time when someone encouraged you to keep going when you were doing something that was difficult? (For school? For sports? At home?)

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.



Apostle:
a person who is *sent out* to teach others about Christ



Samaritan:
a person from the region of Samaria



Levites:
servants of the Temple
(assisted in the Temple but were not priests)

PARABLE OF THE GOOD SAMARITAN

Luke 10:25-37

Optional:

Let the kids act out the story as you are telling it: two kids can be the priest and Levite, one can be the Samaritan, another the wounded man, and the innkeeper. The Samaritan can put bandages on the wounded man and attempt to bring him to safety at the inn.

They do not need any speaking parts. This is to allow them movement, participation, and focusing their attention on the story. Don't forget to use enthusiasm while telling the story to help hold their attention. Our goal is to teach them the parable and how they can incorporate it into their life.

Jesus tells the lawyer a story in order to explain to him - Who is our neighbor and how should we take care of them?

The first two men, the priest and Levite, walk right passed the injured man lying on the road. They didn't even pause to think about taking care of him. Have you ever gotten hurt while playing outside? Did you trip on something and hit your knee? Did you tumble off of your bike? You know



how much it hurts when you fall or get hit by something. We quickly call out for someone nearby to help us up or ask them to get an adult, don't we? What if you were so hurt you couldn't ask for help - would you hope a kind person would stop and help you?

Then a third man, a Samaritan, comes along the path and thankfully he stops to help! He lovingly cares for the injured man as if he were his own father, brother, or son. The crazy thing is that it is well known that the Samaritans and Jews don't like each other very much. Regardless, the Samaritan pulls out some wine to disinfect the man's cuts. Then he pulls out some oil from his bag and rubs it along all the cuts to keep them from getting infected. Finally, he bandages the man up and picks him up, placing him on his own animal.

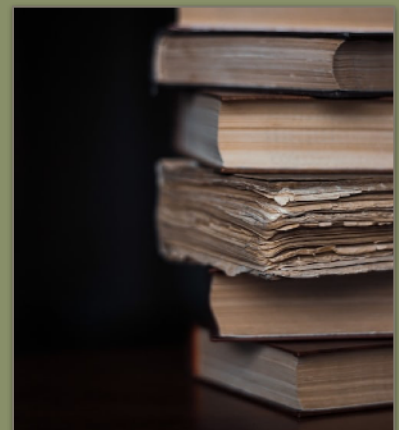
EXTENDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

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 you ever tried to help someone up when they can't help you? It's not easy at all! The Samaritan uses all his strength and effort to help this wounded man and brings him to the nearby inn where he can rest and recover.

The Samaritan didn't just help this man while he was with him though. He made sure the injured man would continue to receive care long after he leaves. The Samaritan pays the innkeeper two denarii, which is enough money to keep the injured man at the inn for three weeks! This was generous indeed, but again, the Samaritan didn't stop there either. Instead the Samaritan told the innkeeper that if he spent anything more than what he already paid, then he would come back and pay even more!

Christ teaches us that we should take care of our neighbor, who is anyone beside us. Our neighbor is the person we don't know at all and also our parents, brothers, sisters, friends, our classmates at school, and the people standing next to us at church. Our neighbor is everyone!

Christ also teaches us how much we should help our neighbor - as much as we are capable of helping! Have you ever seen your parents helping someone out? What did they do? Have you ever helped someone? What did you do?

ICON: GOOD SAMARITAN

Remember that many scenes are depicted in this one icon.

Ask the kids to find:

- The man who was robbed and beaten, left on the side of the road

- The two men who passed by and weren't willing to help the wounded man
- The Samaritan (The Samaritan is depicted as Christ - for Christ came to heal and save us all!)
- The innkeeper

REVIEW:

Are you going to pass by and do nothing when someone is sick or hurt in your house?

What are some ways you could help them?

If you see someone who is hurt, sick, or being bullied, find a trusted adult who can help!

Saint Arsenios the Cappadocian healed everyone who came to him seeking help. It didn't matter if they were an Orthodox Christian or Muslim, he lovingly cared for each of them. We emailed your parents and gave them links to videos about his life. Ask them tonight if you can watch one of the videos about Saint Arsenios with them.

SING:

O Holy Apostles

THE GOOD SAMARITAN

AT HOME

FOR PARENTS

It 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.

They grow up learning how to care for others each time they see us tend to our neighbor (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, “simply” listening to someone who needs to talk about their problem or being a shoulder to cry on.

Additionally, it is important for us to check-in on the people around us when we notice they are not acting like themselves. Sometimes people cannot always verbalize that they need help.

Don't forget! Make sure you talk to your kids about [internet safety](#) and be familiar with where they spend their time online. We want them to seek help for themselves or others when they encounter problems online, as well as in person.

HOME ACTIVITY #14

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

Talk with your kids: What are some ways you can be supportive of each other when you've had a rough day or are stressed? What prayers can we say for one another? Do you have a story you can share with your kids about a time you watched your parents (their grandparents) help someone in need or a time you helped someone that stands out to you?

