

January 2021

Welcome back!

We hope you can use this resource together and find everything you need at home.

Our theme today is:

Good Samaritan

Get ready to explore one of the best-known stories in the Bible.

You can watch it here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rZhYBqU9cCc>

What does being a good Samaritan look like for us?

Activity Time

1. First Aid

You will need: bandages, slings, dressing-up costumes.

Take it in turns to be the patient and first-aider.



Talk about: How the Samaritan would have used whatever he had to bandage the man, then took him to the inn where he could care for him properly. Some people train as first-aiders in order to be able to help others when they are hurt.

2. Hand washing

You will need: a bowl, water, towels, hand sanitiser

We have all had lots of practice in washing our hands correctly! Let's try making washing our hands a time to pray. Wash your hands slowly and carefully, and remember the times when you've been too busy to help someone else. Ask God for his forgiveness. Now dry your hands and rub in some sanitising gel. Remember that God offers us a chance to start again, to change the way we behave towards others. What will you do differently?

Talk about how the priest and the Levite may have been on their way to worship, but Jesus is telling us this isn't an excuse! We should never be too busy to help others.



3. Make your own inn

You will need: sheets, a table and chairs, cushions, cardboard, play food.

Can you make an inn with the table, chairs and sheets? Can you make a sign for the inn? What would you call it?

Talk about: what food would the injured man need to help him get better? The Samaritan made sure that the injured man had all he needed to get better. He was very generous! The people who heard the story when Jesus first told it would have been shocked - they would not expect a Samaritan to have been kind or generous. Do we sometimes believe what we are told about others instead of finding out for ourselves?

4. Make a caring card

You will need: Card, a sticky plaster, pens

Make a card for someone who is unwell to cheer them up!
Talk about other ways we can show we care - kind words, sharing, helping one another.



Celebration

Act out the story, you could use Lego, other play people or even cuddly toys.

Song: ['when I needed a neighbour'](#)

Prayer: Loving God, we thank you for this story and for teaching us that you love all people. Help us always to remember that we should be kind and generous to those who are different to us or don't agree with us. Amen.

Meal suggestion: Try wraps (they look a bit like bandages?) with salad and cheese or tuna or chicken, whatever filling you like! Maybe for dessert you could make jelly - that's always good when you're feeling poorly.

Questions you might like to use while eating together:

- When have you been a good Samaritan?
- Can you think of someone who needs a friend right now? How could you be that friend?

Share pictures what you've been doing on our Messy Church Facebook page - remember social media safety! Please make sure you can't be identified eg don't include faces.