

In our story this week, Jesus looks into a man's heart and sees his lack of love for God and for others. To teach this man, Jesus tells a parable (an earthly story with a heavenly meaning) about a Samaritan. After listening to or reading the story, can you answer this question: **How was the Samaritan a good neighbor to the wounded man?**

The man in the story asked Jesus, "What must I do to gain eternal life?" The problem here is the man thought he could earn eternal life on his own. To answer his question Jesus asked the man the following question: "What is written in God's law?" Although the man knew the scripture and was able to answer that the God's Law says to "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all you mind" and to "Love your neighbor as much as you love yourself", the man failed to recognize that he was sinful and could not keep these commands perfectly as God requires. None of us can, that is why we need Jesus! In fact, to justify himself, the man goes on to ask Jesus, "Who is my neighbor?" thinking that he only had to show love to certain people who were his "neighbors".

In the parable we learn about a priest and a Levite who pass by a man who had been robbed and injured and offer him no assistance. Why might you expect that these people (the priest and the Levite) would have shown compassion and helped the wounded man? They worked in the church, they should have known God wants us to show love to others, especially those in need, but instead they passed on by. Then a Samaritan man not only stopped to help the wounded man, he took him to an inn and stayed with him and cared for him and paid the innkeeper to take care of him too. Samaritans did not get along with the Jewish people very well, so it seems like the Samaritan would have been the least likely to offer assistance to the wounded man. **Out of love for God the Samaritan did take care of his "neighbor" the wounded man.**

A neighbor is not just someone who lives next door to us. A neighbor is anyone we can help or show love and kindness to. Think of ways you can show love to the following "neighbors":

- A new classmate in school who seems lonely and shy
- Someone at school that has forgotten their lunch
- Your grandma who isn't feeling well
- Your neighbor who has a broken leg

We show that we love God when we follow his command to love others! We are sinners though, and we are not able to keep God's commands perfectly. That is why we need Jesus! When Jesus lived on earth, he loved all people perfectly and he kept all of God's commands perfectly. It is great to know that even though we are not perfect, Jesus is our perfect substitute and because of him we will have eternal life.

Pray: God, you can see into our sinful hearts. You know that we don't always love you as we should. Forgive all our sins, and fill our hearts with your love. Help us show our love for you every day in the way we treat other people. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Worksheet: Loving Hearts and Helping Hands – please see separate attachment for the worksheet, the answer key is on next page of this document.

Art Project: Please see the instructions for the art project on next page of this document.

Want to share your artwork with us?

Email a picture of your Sunday School craft to office@gsholmen.org

*We will be showing pictures sent to us on the Church Screens during announcements

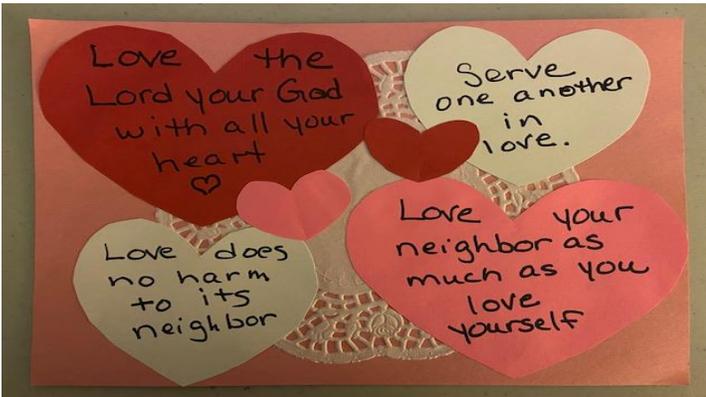
Memory Treasure Heart Collage

Art Project Supplies Provided in packet picked up in church:

- Full sheet pale pink construction paper
- White paper "lace like" doilie
- Red heart to cut out
- Bright pink heart to cut out
- Two white hearts to cut out

Instructions:

1. Cut out all hearts
2. With a marker or crayon write the memory treasures on each heart as indicated below, please note you do not need to write the bible references if there is not room:
 - a. Red heart: Love the Lord your God with all your heart. (Luke 10:27a)
 - b. Pink heart: Love your neighbor as yourself. (Luke 10:27b)
 - c. White heart: Love does no harm to its neighbor. (Romans 13:10a)
 - d. White heart: Serve one another in love. (Galations 5:13b)
3. Using a glue stick or glue, glue the doilie in the center of the pink full sheet of construction paper.
4. Glue the memory treasure hearts on the pink construction paper. You will probably have to have the two bigger hearts (pink and red) in opposite corners.
5. Cut extra heart shapes from the scraps left over of red and bright pink paper and add any other decorations you would like. Your final project will look something like this:



Worksheet Answer Key:

Part One: 1. L. 2. J. 3. L. 4. L. 5. J. 6. S. 7. L. 8. J

Part Two: 1. Deuteronomy 6:5; 2. Leviticus 19:18

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