

# God's Story @ Home

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## *Living the Word*

***God's Story @ Home***

*Family Faith Formation*

2020 – 2021



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# Family Guide

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## Spring Unit

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## Lesson #3-23

# *The Samaritan, Martha and Mary*

Luke 10:25-42



### **Key Verse:**

Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

Luke 10:25

### **The Point:**

God's kingdom appears in acts of mercy and love.



## *Introduction*

Today's lesson includes two stories. The first is the Parable of the Good Samaritan. A lawyer questions Jesus. Jesus responds by telling a story about a man who is hurt by robbers. A priest and a Levite, supposedly godly people, walk by and do not stop to help him. However, a Samaritan, whose people were hated by the Jews, stops and cares for the man. In the next story, Mary sits at Jesus' feet as he is talking, while Martha is busy with tasks around the house. When she questions Jesus, he responds that Martha should focus on being a disciple of Jesus.

### **The Point**

**God's kingdom appears in acts of mercy and love.**

Our lives are full of expectations and guidelines for behavior, often seeming to promise success if we can follow the rules. But instead, Jesus lifts up those who make culturally inappropriate—even dangerous—choices that show love for God and for neighbor. Today we explore how to follow Jesus' radical example in our own lives, discussing expectations, boundaries, and our own hopes and callings for God's work in the world.

# Activities a la Carte

## Activities

## Supplies

### Introduction

#### *The Roles We Play*

Highlight the ease or difficulty of certain roles.

15 min.

- † Paper
- † Pens or pencils
- † Scissors
- † Basket

### Learning the Story

#### *The Samaritan, Mary and Martha*

Hear and respond to the story.

15 min.

- † Bible
- † Activity Sheet #3-23.A

### Activities

#### *Beautiful Service*

Make the best-looking plate.

10 min.

- † Paper plate
- † Variety of snack foods

#### *Who Does What?*

Match descriptions with names.

15 min.

- † Bible
- † Activity Sheet #3-23.B
- † Pens or pencils

### Prayer

# God's Story @ Home



## Introduction (15 minutes)

### The Roles We Play

Highlight the ease or difficulty of certain roles.

#### Supplies:

- † Paper
- † Pen or pencil
- † Scissors
- † Basket

#### Preparation:

1. Cut paper into slips, write a particular job or role that a person might perform on each slip. Fill the basket with completed slips of paper. Role suggestions are:

<i>Easy</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Hard</i>
Runner Being a dog Doctor Basketball player Teacher	Dish washer Ice skater Being a giraffe Veterinarian Librarian	Business person Computer programmer Being a zebra Vacuum cleaner salesman Movie director

*Instructions:*

1. Explain the basics of charades: **Everyone will have a chance to choose a slip of paper and to act out what is on the paper, without talking or making noises. The rest of us will guess what or who they are acting out.**
2. Invite each person to choose a slip of paper and act out the role written on it.
3. Once everyone has had a chance to perform a role, ask:
  - **Which roles were easy to act out?**
  - **Which were hard?**
  - **What made some easier and some harder?**
  - **What do you think would be the easiest thing to pretend to do, outside of what was on the paper?**
  - **What would be the hardest?**

## *Learning the Story (10 minutes)*

### *The Samaritan, Martha and Mary*

Hear and respond to the story.

#### *Supplies:*

- † Bible
- † Activity Sheet #3-23.A

#### *Preparation:*

1. Make a copy of Activity Sheet #3-23.A for each person.

#### *Instructions:*

1. Teach everyone the refrain to the story on Activity Sheet #3-23.A. Practice saying the refrain together.
2. Tell the story on the Activity Sheet, inviting family members to say the refrain at the appropriate times.
3. If you have time, read through the story a second time. You may also wish to invite older children to retell the story with you.
4. **Who showed mercy to the hurt man?** *[The Samaritan.]* **How did he show mercy?** *[By wrapping him in bandages, taking him to an inn, and paying for his stay.]*
5. **When Jesus comes to Mary and Martha's house, what does Mary do?** *[She sits and listens to him talk.]* **What does Martha do?** *[She does what she needs to do to welcome Jesus, but she does not stop to listen.]*
6. **Which characters in the story showed that they loved Jesus and loved other people?** *[The Samaritan, Mary, and Martha.]*

## *Activity (10 minutes)*

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### *Beautiful Service*

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Make the best-looking plate.

*Supplies:*

- † Paper plates
- † Variety of snack foods

*Instructions:*

1. Suggestions for snack food: fish-shaped crackers, jelly beans, grapes, cherry tomatoes, celery sticks, apple slices, orange slices, cheese sticks or squares, crackers, cookies, wrapped chocolates, or candy.

*Instructions:*

1. Make sure everyone gets their hands washed and keeps them clean during the process.
2. **Today's story of Martha and Mary involves food. Imagine putting together a meal for 13 hungry men! We will practice planning, presentation, and service by putting together plates of snack foods and then sharing them with each other. Try to make the most creative looking plate you can, but keep it edible.**
3. When everyone is done, invite them to present their plates.
4. Invite everyone to eat.



## Activity (15 minutes)

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### Who Does What?

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Match descriptions with names.

#### Supplies:

- † Bible
- † Activity Sheet #3-23.B
- † Pens or pencils

#### Instructions:

1. Read today's two stories out loud.
2. Distribute Activity Sheet #3-23.B and pens or pencils.
3. **There are a lot of characters in today's story, and a lot of different roles to play. Understanding the cultural roles and expectations of Jesus' time and place can help us understand a whole new level of today's stories, a level that breaks open how God moves across boundaries and borders to change the world.**
4. Invite everyone to work together to try to match up the descriptions and titles on the Activity Sheet.
5. When everyone is finished, check their responses on the answer key.
6. Discuss:
  - **What are the differences between a host and an innkeeper?**
  - **What are the differences between a lawyer and a teacher? Do you think they might compete with each other for students, followers, or discussion partners?**
  - **How do you think it would feel to be a woman in this culture?**

## *Prayer*

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Make a point to come together to pray. Use the following or say your own prayer.

Invite everyone to stand in a circle, arms outstretched, too far from each other to touch fingers. **Jesus calls us to connect with God and with each other. We will read one verse from today's story and then step close enough to touch fingers. We will read another verse, and step close enough to hold hands.**

**What must I do to inherit eternal life?**

(Everyone steps forward until they can touch fingers.)

**You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.**

(Everyone steps forward until they can hold hands.)

**You shall love your neighbor as yourself. Amen.**

If you have the “Living the Word: Sharing God’s Story @ Home” sheet, remember to use it throughout the week as a part of your family devotions!

# *The Samaritan, Martha and Mary*

*Hear and respond to the story.*

One day, a lawyer asked Jesus what he should do so that he can live forever. Jesus asked the man, "What does the law say?" The man said,

**Love God, and love our neighbor.**

Jesus told the lawyer that he was correct. But, the lawyer had another question: "Who is my neighbor?" So, Jesus told him a story about a man walking from Jerusalem to a city called Jericho. While the man was walking some people came up to him and hurt him. They did not remember that we should:

**Love God, and love our neighbor.**

They hurt the man and left him on the side of the road. A priest walked by the man, but he did not help him. Then a worship leader walked by, but he did not stop to help either. Finally, a Samaritan walked by. The Samaritan remembered that we should:

**Love God, and love our neighbor.**

The Samaritan cared for the hurt man. He took care of the man's wounds. Then, he put the man on his donkey and took him to an inn. The Samaritan paid the innkeeper to take care of him. By showing him mercy, the Samaritan remembered that God wants us to:

**Love God, and love our neighbor.**

After he told this story, Jesus traveled to the home of Mary and Martha. Mary and Martha were very excited to see Jesus! Martha spent a lot of time preparing for his visit. She put a lot of work into welcoming him into their home. Mary, on the other hand, spent the whole time sitting at Jesus' feet, listening to him talk. Martha was not happy that Mary was doing this. She thought that doing things was the best way for them to:

**Love God, and love our neighbor.**

But Jesus reminded Martha about something important! He told Martha that she was worrying about too many things. Instead, she should do what Mary was doing: sitting and listening to Jesus. He said that Mary was choosing the better thing to do. She was learning from Jesus how to:

**Love God, and love our neighbor.**



# Who Does What

*Match descriptions with roles.*

_____1. This person belongs to a different religion and racial group than the Jewish people of Jesus' time. They were not very friendly with Jewish people.		a) Robber
_____2. This person welcomed someone into their house and provided food, shelter, and care for payment. They were almost always male.		b) Student
_____3. This person would follow a teacher and learn from them. They were almost always male.		c) Lawyer
_____4. This person welcomed someone into their home and provided food, shelter, and care without expecting any payment. They were almost always male.		d) Priest
_____5. Often working in groups, these people would hide in the high hills beside roads and attack travelers. They were almost always male.		e) Levite
_____6. This person represents the people before God, praying on their behalf and offering sacrifices for their mistakes. They have to be very careful about whether they are following the rules—rules that include not touching a dead body. They were always male.		f) Teacher
_____7. Descending from a certain son of Jacob, this person belongs to a group of families who serve in the temple. They have to be very careful about whether they are following the rules—rules that include not touching a dead body. They were always male.		g) Innkeeper
_____8. This person studies the law of Moses (the first five books of the Bible) and discusses with others how to interpret and follow it. They were always male.		h) Neighbor
_____9. This is a person who needs mercy.		i) Samaritan
_____10. This person has studied the Jewish Scriptures and explains them to others, especially how to live them out. They don't belong to a particular class or family group. They were always male.		j) Host



# Who Does What

## Answer Key

____1. This person belongs to a different religion and racial group than the Jewish people of Jesus' time. They were not very friendly with Jewish people.	i) Samaritan
____2. This person welcomed someone into their house and provided food, shelter, and care for payment. They were almost always male.	g) Innkeeper
____3. This person would follow a teacher and learn from them. They were almost always male.	b) Student
____4. This person welcomed someone into their home and provided food, shelter, and care without expecting any payment. They were almost always male.	j) Host
____5. Often working in groups, these people would hide in the high hills beside roads and attack travelers. They were almost always male.	a) Robber
____6. This person represents the people before God, praying on their behalf and offering sacrifices for their mistakes. They have to be very careful about whether they are following the rules—rules that include not touching a dead body. They were always male.	d) Priest
____7. Descending from a certain son of Jacob, this person belongs to a group of families who serve in the Temple. They have to be very careful about whether they are following the rules—rules that include not touching a dead body. They were always male.	e) Levite
____8. This person studies the law of Moses (the first five books of the Bible) and discusses with others how to interpret and follow it. They were always male.	c) Lawyer
____9. This is a person who needs mercy.	h) Neighbor
____10. This person has studied the Jewish Scriptures and explains them to others, especially how to live them out. They don't belong to a particular class or family group. They were always male.	f) Teacher