

THE GOOD SAMARITAN - Ο ΚΑΛΟΣ ΣΑΜΑΡΕΙΤΗΣ

A lawyer came to Jesus with a question. He wanted to test Jesus and asked Him "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus asked him what is written in the law? How do you read it? The lawyer answered "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind," and your neighbour as yourself.

Jesus told the lawyer he was right. And the lawyer wanted to know who is our neighbor? So Jesus answers with another parable, the parable of the good Samaritan. A man went from Jerusalem to Jericho. It was a dangerous road and thieves loved it because there were a lot of hiding places, like caves, for them. The road was full of curves.

Some robbers attacked the traveling man. They took his clothes, hurt him and left. He was barely alive!

A priest walked by. During the time of Jesus, a priest took care of the temple sacrifices. You'd think a priest would stop to help, but when he saw the man lying there, the priest went to the other side of the road and passed by him.

Next, a Levite came by. A Levite's job was to help take care of the temple. When the Levite looked at the injured man, he passed by on the other side too.

But then, a Samaritan man was walking by and he saw the injured man. Jesus is telling this parable to a Jewish lawyer, and Jews and Samaritans did not like each other...at all. So to expect the Samaritan to help the man would be extra hard, but the Samaritan had compassion for the hurt man. The Samaritan treated his wounds. He used wine to disinfect the cuts and oil to help ease the pain. The Samaritan put the injured man on his own animal, a donkey, and took him to an inn. The Samaritan took care of him there.

The next day when the Samaritan was leaving, he took 2 denarii. (Roman coins) and gave them to the innkeeper. The Samaritan man told the innkeeper to take care of the man and said: "When I come again, I will repay you the rest." Jesus asked the lawyer who he thought was the neighbor, and the lawyer said the one who showed mercy. Jesus told him to "Go and do likewise." According to Jesus we are love our neighbors, but strangers also. Jesus also wants us to be nice and help others when we can.

Activity

Help the Good Samaritan navigate the maze below so he can help the wounded man.

