

Day 2

Read Luke 10:25–37

After you read Luke 10:25-37, go back and underline all the questions. (Hint: there are five.)

The religious teacher thought he was going to trip up Jesus with his first question, “What must I do to receive eternal life?”

But Jesus knew the man didn’t really want the Truth. He wanted to know the least he could do to get by. So Jesus answered the religious leader with a story and a question, “who was his neighbor?”

The answer wasn’t what anyone expected. The two men that passed the injured man by were religious leaders. Surely they would qualify as a neighbor! They not only followed the letter of the law, they led others to do the same. But. . . when there was someone in need—they were not kind.

But the Samaritan, someone considered an outcast, or an “other”—even an enemy of the Jews—he was kind to this Jewish man lying injured on the side of the road. He was the real neighbor.

The story Jesus told demonstrated to everyone that it didn’t matter how many rules you followed, or what religious rituals you held. . . that following Jesus means loving God and loving others—even those who are different from you.



Day 3

Be kind to others. Sounds simple enough, right?

Be kind to people who are different from you.
Hmm, maybe not so easy.

The good news is, we don’t have to do this on our own. God wants to help us be kind to everyone. That’s why Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to help us—so we can be kind just like He was! Take a few minutes to ask God for help being kind. Be sure and mention the people you find it hard to be kind to, or maybe the situations (like when you’re stressed or hangry) when being kind is most challenging.

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**Dear God,** thank You for sending

Jesus to show me what it looks like to

be kind to people who are different

from me. I want to be kind like Jesus,

but I need Your help. I personally find

it hard to be kind to \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_, and especially

when I am feeling \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_. Help me to show

others they are valuable by how I treat

them. In Jesus’ Name, I pray. **Amen.**

## Day 4

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### How can you care for people who are different from you?

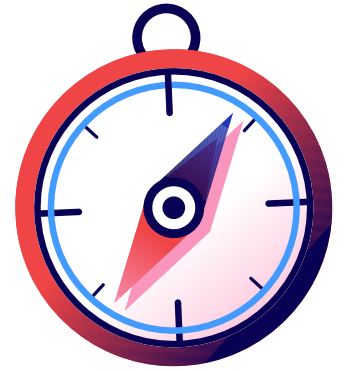
Don’t write the answers down but answer in your head. Who in your life:

- Are you most like?
- Do you struggle being kind to?
- Do you find it easiest to love?
- Are you most different from?

Are your answers for 1 and 3 the same? And you probably got the same answer for 2 and 4 too, didn’t you?

It’s natural to find it easier to be kind to the people that we relate to the most, the people who we “get,” and who understand us. But Jesus taught us that true kindness means being kind to everyone. Think of the Good Samaritan. He was considered an outcast, but he was kind to someone who was very different from him.

Today, find a way to reach out and be kind to the person (or people) you thought of for questions 2 and 4. Use your words to encourage them, but also consider an act of kindness to go along with your words!



## Day 5

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**Gather up seven of something—could be stuffed animals or other toys, or it could be other random objects around your house. . . like books or pillows.**

Assign each object one of the following roles to play:

- The “Man”
- The robbers (2)
- The priest
- The Levite
- The Samaritan
- The innkeeper

Challenge your memory of the story Jesus told of the Good Samaritan by using the objects to act out what happens. Then check your work by going back to read the passage one more time (Luke 10:25–37).

Which of your objects would you label as being “good” based on how the assigned character acted toward the hurt man? Every time you see that object, remember the kindness the Good Samaritan showed to someone who was different from him. Then be intentional in looking for a way to **be kind to people who are different from you.**