

LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR

Bible Text: Luke 10:29-37; Matthew 5:43-47

Lesson Focus: Our neighbors are all the people in the world.

Big Question: I know who my neighbor is. Now what?

Key Words: NEIGHBOR, ACCOMPANIMENT, CHARITY, JUSTICE

BIBLE CONNECTION

-] My neighbor is anyone who is in need (Luke 10:36-37).
-] My neighbor lives next door and around the world.
-] Luther says to treat my neighbor as I would treat Jesus (Matthew 25:40).
-] The very first Christians knew the good news wasn't just for them—they were commissioned to go to the "end of the earth" to find their neighbors (Acts 13:47).
-] I love and serve my neighbor because God first loved me.
-] I can help my neighbor in need, and that same neighbor can help me.

CARTOON CONNECTION

-] How easy is it to treat everyone as a neighbor? Why?
-] Have you ever been surprised when someone you thought was an enemy treated you as a neighbor? What was that like?
-] How can God help when loving our neighbors is particularly difficult?



STUDENT BOOK CONNECTION

Here We Stand Student Book page 256: How to Identify a "Neighbor" and What This Means for Lutherans

-] What important information do you find in the introduction to this article?
-] Highlight the clues to helping out a neighbor you find in this article.
-] In what ways can you be a good neighbor other than showing kindness?

LIFE CONNECTION

Watch the evening news tonight. What neighbors do you see who need your help? What neighbors do you see who are helping you? Pick a neighbor you can help and find a way to help them. Then pick a neighbor who's helping you and write a note of thanks!

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Trivia (Jeopardy-style)

NEIGHBORLY ACTS

1. Washing the feet and feeding a guest is called this in the Bible.
2. The good Samaritan did this to the injured man.
3. If your neighbor is hungry, this is in order.
4. Luther said we should be this to our neighbors.

FAMOUS NEIGHBORS

1. These people weren't thought of as neighbors by the Israelites.
2. This neighbor of Israel loved them so much they wouldn't let them go.
3. Bathsheba lived next door to this sinful King.
4. His brothers came to neighboring Egypt because they were starving.

NEIGHBORHOODS

1. Temple mount, Garden of Gethsemane, Praetorium.
2. Stable, overflowing inns, census takers.
3. The Emperor, pagan temples, aqueducts.
4. Australia, Greenland, Africa, etc.

NEIGHBOR OR "NAY"-BOR?

1. The priest who walked past the injured man.
2. The Philistine Goliath who had big issues with Israel.
3. Philip, who taught the eunuch about Jesus.
4. People who gave just their shirt to a neighbor.

Answers: Neighborly acts: 1. hospitality 2. cleaned his wounds 3. feeding them 4. little Christs / Famous neighbors: 1. Samaritans 2. Egypt 3. David 4. Joseph / Neighborhoods: 1. Jerusalem 2. Bethlehem 3. Rome 4. my neighborhood / Neighbor or "Nay"-bor?: 1. Nay-bor 2. Nay-bor 3. Neighbor 4. Nay-bor