

GO AND DO LIKEWISE

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Lesson: Luke 10

You all know the story of the Good Samaritan. It is a story about a poor man who got robbed, and the robbers left him with nothing, not even his clothes, and left him wounded, half dead. And a priest and a Levite came by, and instead of helping him, they passed by on the other side. But a good Samaritan came, and he did help the poor man, even though it was a man whom he didn't necessarily feel close to, because the Jews hated the Samaritans. But because he was in trouble, the Samaritan helped him. He knew that here was a man who was not as happy or as lucky as he was, and needed help. So he helped him.

Children, you are very lucky, aren't you? You come from lovely homes, with nearly all the things that you want. Your bodies are strong and healthy. Your minds have strong parts too, each one of you has special abilities, talents which the Lord has given you. And you have the most important blessing of all—you have the teachings of the Lord's Word. You have homes and a church to teach you these things. You also go to a special school which gives you so many blessings of the mind.

As you go through life, you are like a traveler who is strong and healthy, and with riches—the riches of the mind. But as you go through life you are going to meet many people who are not as strong as you are, and who have not been as lucky as you are. There are those who are poor on this earth, who don't even have the money to buy food and clothes. There are those who are sick, whose bodies are not strong and healthy, and who can't do the things we can do, and need help. There are very many who have not been to school, and don't know the things we know. And, most important of all, there are many people who do not know the truths of the Lord's Word, and so their minds do not have the strength that your minds can have. And if that is so, perhaps the evil spirits will be attacking them, and making them unhappy.

What are you going to do, when you meet these other people who need you? Are you going to pass them by on the other side? Are you going to say, I'm busy having fun myself, I don't have time to worry myself about these other people. It's a pity that they're poor, or their bodies are sick, or their minds are not strong and they're unhappy, but it's not my business to help them. That's what the priest and the Levite said, wasn't it?

Or when you find people who need your help, who are unhappy, are you going to help? Are you going to think, I am lucky, because the Lord has given me all these things, and I should use them to help other people who are unhappy, who are less lucky than I am. If you do, then you are like the good Samaritan.

You know, children, when you come into the spiritual world, and the Lord looks into your heart and sees what kind of person you are, He is not going to want to know that you have a healthy body, or lots of money and a nice house, or even that you knew lots of things. He's going to ask how you used these things. Did you use your money, your strength, and the strength of your mind, did you use the wonderful truths you learned at home and church and school, just for yourself, or did you help other people who don't have as much as you have had, and needed your help? If you did, then the Lord's going to welcome you into His heaven, as one of His angels, for you will have been neighborly to those who have been hurt and in trouble. *Amen.*