

BIBLE LESSONS

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LESSON 10: GOD GIVES ... THE GIFT OF LOVE

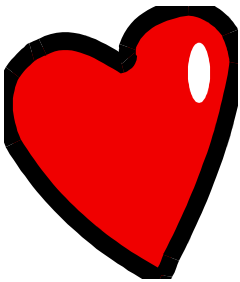
The next four lessons are on the theme, 'God's Gifts'. You may like to precede this theme by telling the children that God loves to give good things to His people. We cannot buy these gifts or earn them, but just receive them like a gift. You can cover a box in attractive paper and bring it each week. Choose a child to open the box which can have a card inside to announce the 'gift' for that week. You can finish each session by saying to the children, 'I wonder what God's gift will be next week!' etc. This may give the children a sense of anticipation.



AIM: That the children know that ALL TRUE love comes from God, He not only gives love, but He IS love. When we receive God's love, He also gives us the ability to love others.

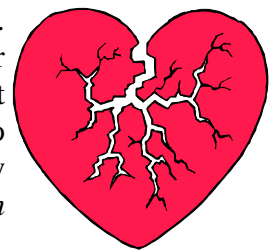
OPENING IDEA:

Preparation: From red construction paper, cut two hearts, making them about 14cm in height. You will also need a cross about 25cm in height.

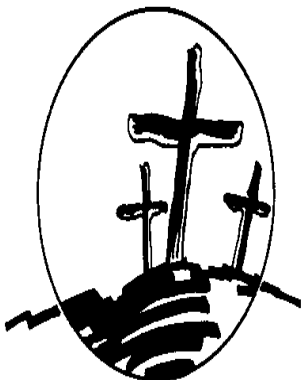


(Hold up one heart) Ask the children, 'What is this? What does it mean? If we send someone a heart, what are we telling them? What does it mean to love someone with God's love?' *(It is important that the children are clear on the qualities of God's love—it is perfect, pure, unconditional, forgiving, never changing—and not to get it confused with physical affection and the world's conception of love.)* God tells us that His people are to live the way of love. They are to love each

other, to have loving hearts for one another *(hold up the heart as if to demonstrate)*. The problem is that we just aren't perfect people, and we don't love each other perfectly either. We get angry with our brothers or sisters, and our love isn't perfect then. *(Crumple the heart slightly.)* Or we argue with our friends and it's not so perfect then either. *(Crumple it more.)* We fight with our school friends, or say unkind things about someone in our class. *(Crumple the heart more with each statement until it is completely crumpled.)*

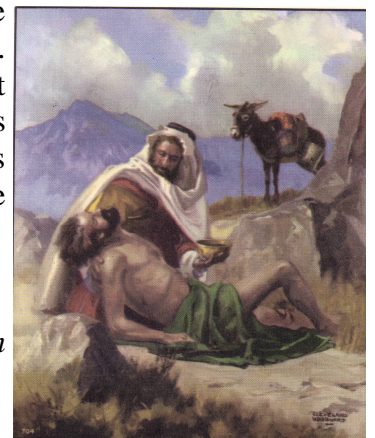


But look what has happened to our heart. It's all crumpled up, all wrinkled. We just couldn't get it straightened out perfectly ever again. We can't, but JESUS did! He brought God's perfect love to us by dying on the cross *(show the cross)*. Jesus took all the sins away that crumple our heart. He gives us a new heart by forgiving us of our sins and then we can love others *(show the new heart)*.



MEMORY VERSE:

"Let us love one another because love comes from God," (1 John 4:7).



ACTIVITY: SECRET MESSAGE GAME

Write each word of the Memory Verse on a piece of paper. Make a newspaper parcel, similar to the Pass the Parcel game, but on the opening of each piece of newspaper, stick one word from the Memory Verse. Children sit in a circle, pass the parcel while the music plays. When the music stops, child holding parcel takes the next piece of paper off and the word attached underneath. That child stands separate from the group until all the words are together. Choose a child to put the children holding the words into order, so that the verse is correct and it can be read together or individually, or all girls, then all boys, etc.

STORY: THE GOOD SAMARITAN (The Good Neighbour) (Luke 10:25-37)

Discuss with the children whether they have ever been in an accident or seen an accident. Discuss ways in which we can help those who are hurt.

Tell the story using your imagination. Tell it as if you were the injured man. Or tell it as if you were the donkey. Or tell it as a modern day version.

PRESENTATION: Use stick men drawings, or mime or flannelgraph.

STRESS POINTS:

- Ask the children why they thought the first two men did not stop.
- Ask what the children would do if they saw a child hurt at school or on their way home from school.
- Make sure the children realize that the Samaritan was from another country and the people from each country were enemies.
- The hurt man was not the Good Samaritan's friend, but that didn't stop him from showing lovingkindness and compassion toward him.
- The Samaritan did not ask for anything in return for his kindness. True love does not look for any payment.

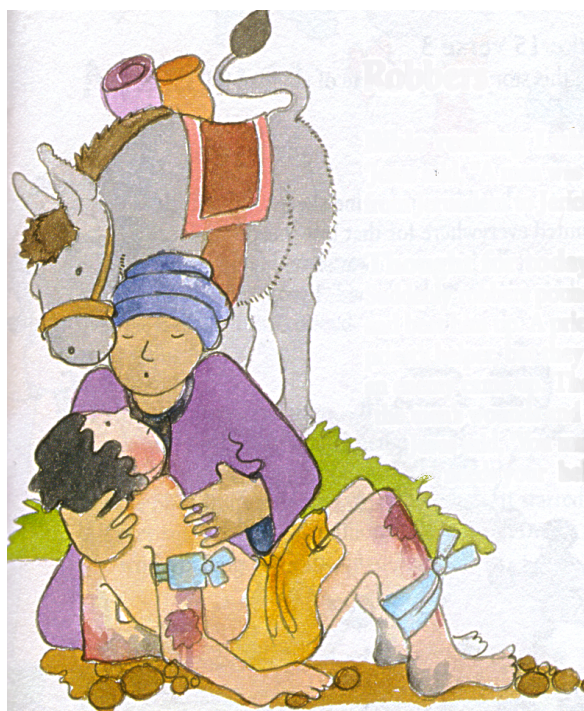
For younger children: You can say this poem and the children can mime the actions:

*A man is hurt beside the road,
Who will be his neighbour good?
Not the first man passing by,
Not the second; they won't try!*

*Here's a third man, yes he will,
"Ride my donkey up the hill.
We shall get you well again,
And see that you are out of pain."*

Who was friend and neighbour good,
To the man beside the road?
The man who stopped and quickly came,
I'm sure we all should do the same.

SONGS: Put on Love Every Day
This is My Commandment
Let There be Love
God Loves You and I Love You.



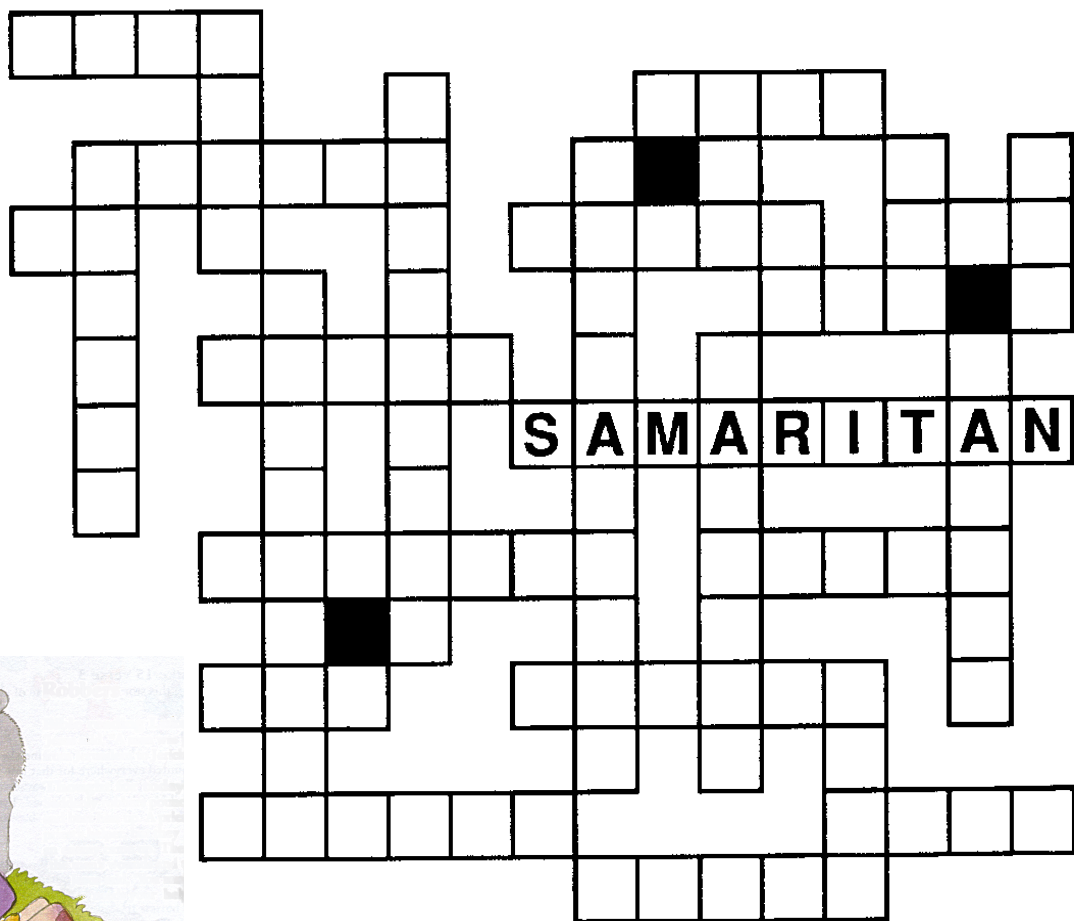
the GOOD SAMARITAN

Read the story of the Good Samaritan in Luke 10:25–37. The following words are taken from that passage. Fit the words into the crossword puzzle.

DO
GO
ALL
LAW
GOD
OIL
INN
TWO
LIFE

LOVE
SIDE
SOUL
DEAD
BOUND
BEAST
PENCE
MERCY
LAWYER

PRIEST
LEVITE
WOUNDS
LOOKED
THIEVES
RAIMENT
JERUSALEM
NEIGHBOUR
COMPASSION



The GOOD SAMARITAN



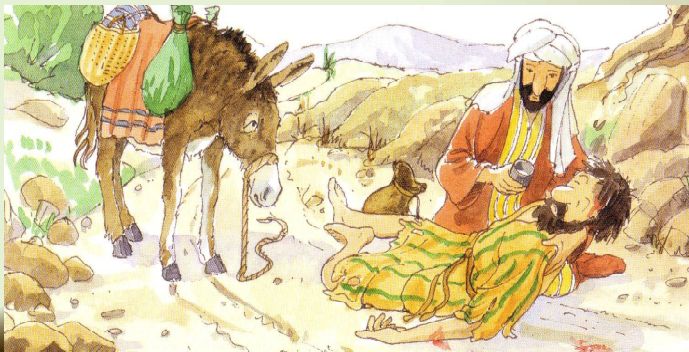
One day a lawyer put a question to Jesus, thinking he could catch him out. "What should I do to gain eternal life?" he asked. "You know the law. What does that tell you," said Jesus. "You must love God with all your heart, and you must love your neighbour as you love yourself," said the lawyer. "You have answered truly," Jesus said. "But who is my neighbour?" asked the lawyer. In reply, Jesus told this story.

A certain man was travelling from Jerusalem to Jericho. On the way he was attacked by thieves, who stripped off his clothes, kicked and beat him, then left him half dead by the roadside. Not long afterwards, a priest came by, and seeing the wounded man, crossed over to the other side. Next came a Levite, one of the men who assisted the priests in the Temple. He, too, gave a quick look and then passed by on the far side of the road.

The third traveller to approach was a Samaritan. Seeing the man half conscious and covered in blood, he was filled with pity. Gently, he cleaned his wounds with oil and wine, before bandaging them with strips of cloth. Then he put the stranger on his own donkey and took him to the nearest inn, where he looked after him all night.



The following day before leaving, he gave the innkeeper money so that the invalid should have whatever he needed. "If you spend more than this, I will give you what is owed the next time I pass," he said.



"Now, which of these three men was the true neighbour?" Jesus asked the lawyer. "The one who showed mercy, the Samaritan," replied the lawyer.

Jesus said, "That's right, go and do the same."

God's love helps us love others

Unscramble the words and write them on the lines below.

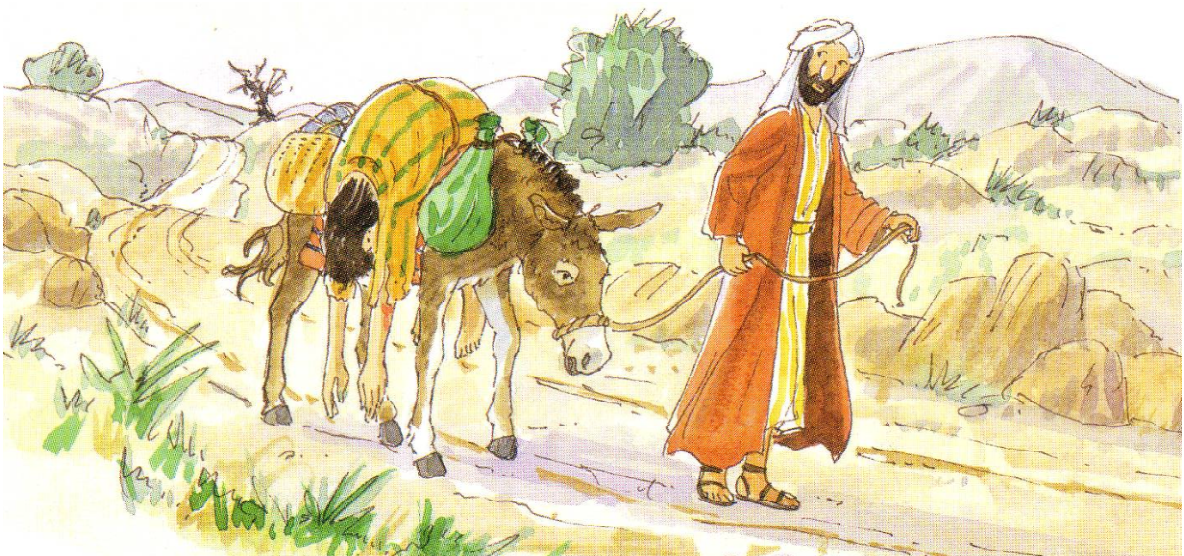


Lte su vloer neo

arnehto bsaueec vloer

semco ofmr odG

(1 John 4:7)



THE GOOD SAMARITAN

WORDLIST

others
new
return
gifts
True
Love
sin
ability

Read the story of
the Good Neighbour
in Luke 10:25-37.

Fill in the missing
words below from
the wordlist



God longs to give good _____ to His children.

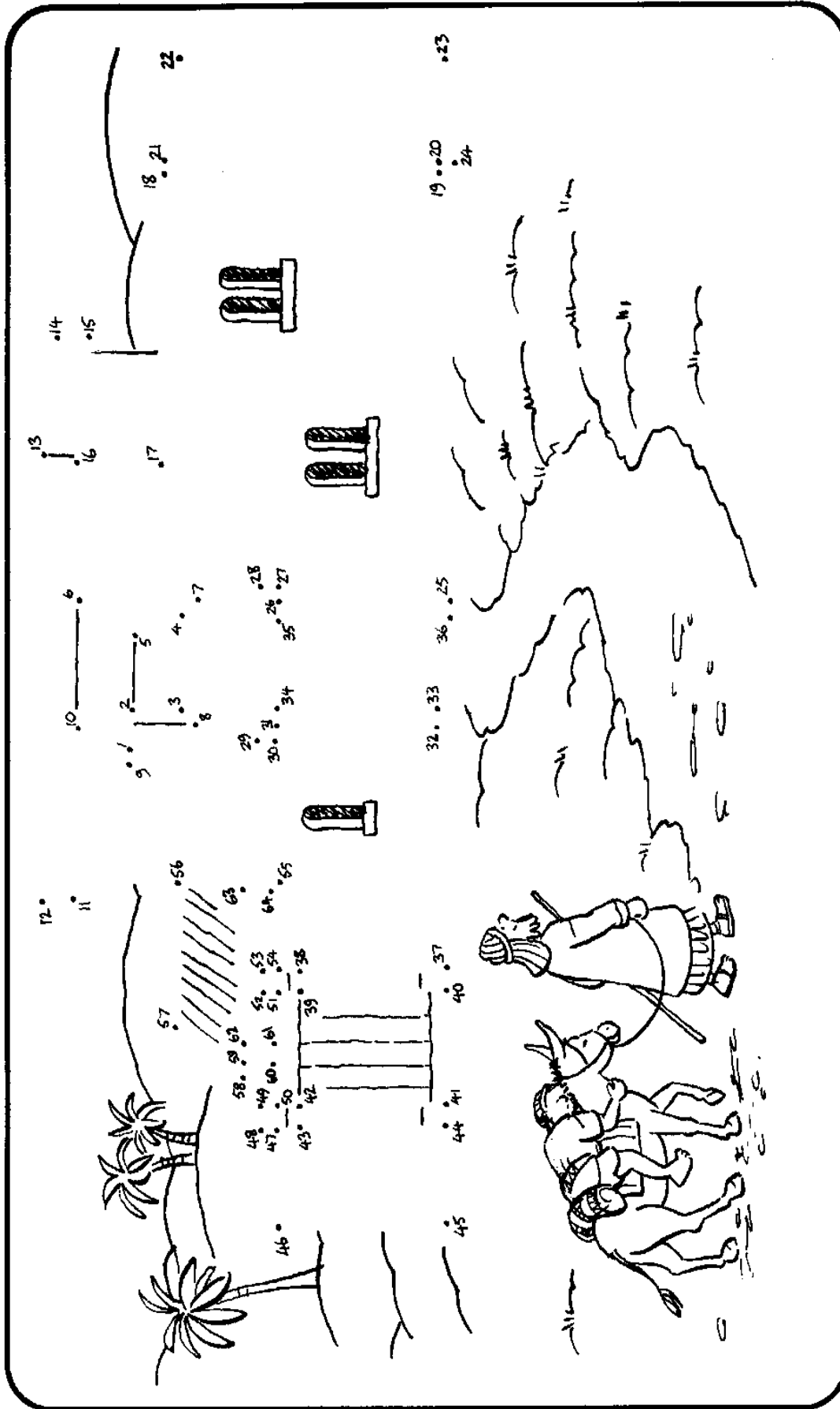
God not only gives the Gift of _____, He is Love.

When Jesus died on the cross for our sins, He took our heart of _____ and gave us a _____ heart.

God's love for us gives us the _____ to love _____ .

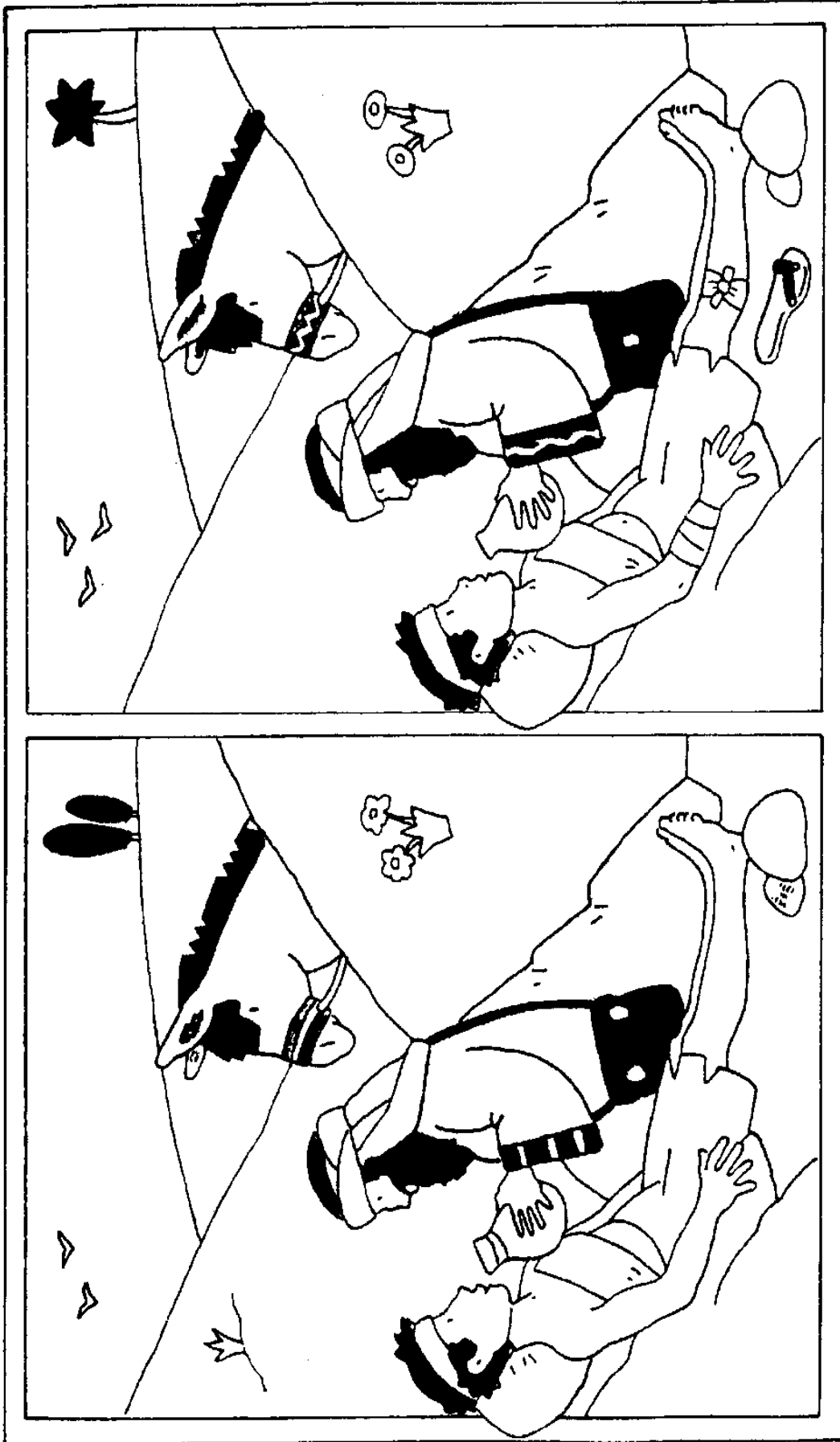
The Good Samaritan helped a stranger in need. He did not look for any payment. _____ love does not ask for anything in _____ .

THE GOOD SAMARITAN



Join up the dots. Where is the good Samaritan taking the injured man to? An _____.
You can find this story in Luke chapter 10, verses 25-37.

THE GOOD SAMARITAN



The good Samaritan is looking after a traveller who was robbed on the road.

You can read this story in Luke 10:25-37.

WORD SEARCH

The Good Samaritan - Luke 10:30-37

WORD LIST

- BEAST
- BOUND
- CARE
- DEAD
- HALF
- INN
- LEFT
- LEVITE
- MAN
- MERCY
- OIL
- OWN
- PRIEST
- REPAY
- SAMARITAN
- SAW
- TWO
- WAY
- WINE
- WOUND



J M L E V I T E O
 T F E L P Q W D
 S A M A R I T A N
 A N I W A O Y U
 E O E I D Y C R O
 B S N A R Q N W
 T E U P E S W A W
 X O E M D O A M A
 B R H A L F Q W Y