

Lesson Twenty-Seven Preparation:

Luke 10: 25-37 The Moral Life

Lesson Supplies

Catholic Children's Bible with table of contents page marked (page 3)

Journal for each family member and writing supplies

Videos cued up on your device

Objectives

- Dignity of the person is the key to morality
- To know the definition of human freedom
- Conscience

Read

From the Bible: Luke 10: 25-37

From the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*

The dignity of the human person is rooted in his creation in the image and likeness of God (article 1); it is fulfilled in his vocation to divine beatitude (article 2). It is essential to a human being freely to direct himself to this fulfillment (article 3). By his deliberate actions (article 4), the human person does, or does not, conform to the good promised by God and attested by moral conscience (article 5). Human beings make their own contribution to their interior growth; they make their whole sentient and spiritual lives into means of this growth (article 6). With the help of grace they grow in virtue (article 7), avoid sin, and if they sin they entrust themselves as did the prodigal son¹ to the mercy of our Father in heaven (article 8). In this way they attain to the perfection of charity. (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, paragraph 1700)

From the *Compendium to the Catechism of the Catholic Church*

Read questions. [Q357-376](#) This will take 10 minutes.

Watch

[Morality of Human Acts](#) 4:27 [Dignity of the Human Person](#) 5:13 [what is conscious](#) 2:36 [what is freedom](#) 2:02 [How can I find happiness](#) 2:23 [Follow your conscience](#) 4:46

Reflect

The Good Samaritan is one of Jesus' most famous stories. It's so famous that secular culture still gives the name Good Samaritan to someone who goes out of their way for a selfless good deed. It also provides a helpful illustration of the moral life, what the Catechism calls life in Christ.

To live a fulfilling life in Christ, we need to choose good things for the right reasons and under the right circumstances. Begrudgingly doing good for someone else isn't nearly as fulfilling or good as doing it out of love. Doing good for someone else to get praise and attention also isn't as fulfilling or good as doing it out of love. T.S. Elliot famously wrote, "The last act is the greatest treason. To do the right deed for the wrong reason." If the Good Samaritan helped the man in the story just so that people would think he was a nice guy, the story would not be as compelling. It is his free and upright intention that infuses this story with its power to inspire.

The challenge for us is to do good for the right reason. Do we go to Mass, complete our Faith Formation lessons, do the laundry and the dishes, because we feel we have to? Or we do those things as acts of love toward God and our family? A good deed done is a good thing indeed, but a good deed done for the right reason is morally excellent.

Lesson Twenty-Seven: Luke 10: 25-37

The Moral Life

Lesson Summary

The dignity of the human person is the source of morality.

Freedom is the ability to choose the good

A well formed conscious makes good moral decisions

Pray

1. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
2. Who or what would you like to pray for today?
3. Creed and Hail Mary (*Catholic Children's Bible* page 1992)

Read

Luke 10: 25-37 The Good Samaritan

- Read the passage slowly and out loud at least three times, maybe taking turns.
- Pay attention for a word or phrase that sticks out to you.
- In your journal, write about that word or phrase. Use some of the suggested journal prompts if you need help.

Reflect

In the above passage, we can see the principles of morality in play. The victim on the side of the road had his human dignity violated by the robbers, and the people who saw his plight and walked passed him. The Samaritan, noticing another human injured, took a moral action in choosing to help the injured individual. The Samaritan showered charity and care upon the injured man. Another way to state this, is that the Samaritan loved the injured man. Christian morality is not about rules, even though there are rules. Christian morality is based on the rule of love of God and neighbor which leads to freedom, joy, and peace.

Watch

[Morality of Human Acts](#) 4:27
[Dignity of the Human Person](#) 5:13 [what is conscious](#) 2:36
[what is freedom](#) 2:02 [How can I find happiness](#) 2:23 [Follow your conscious](#) 4:46

Discuss

- Did you ever treat someone in a way that hurt them? Talk about how you could've done something different to respect them as a human being?
- Talk about a time you did something wrong and your conscience got the best of you.

Live

- Examine your conscience every night before you go to sleep this week. Tell God you are sorry for the times you didn't listen to your conscience.
- Do something kind for a stranger. Make sure it is anonymous and they do not know that you helped them. Just do it for the sake of being kind.
- Go to Confession and clear your conscience. You will feel better when you confess your sins and ask for forgiveness.

OT Hero - Jeremiah

Sometime this week, read **Jeremiah's Friends Save Him (Jeremiah 38:1-13)**, pages 1230-1231 in the *Catholic Children's Bible*.

When Jeremiah tried to tell people what they did wrong, they tried to kill him instead of facing the truth to their sin. His friends had the courage to stand up for him and they saved him.

Lesson Twenty-Seven Supplemental Materials

The Moral Life

Lesson Summary Statements

- The root of human dignity is that all are created by God in His image and in his likeness.
- Following Christ and His teachings leads to happiness in this world and forever in the next
- Jesus shows us how to act in His preaching, teaching, and through His actions during his life
- Jesus left us the church to preserve and develop His teachings
- There is a natural moral law built into the human intellect, based on what it means to be a human
- Freedom is the ability to choose something good. It is not the ability to do anything
- If we abuse freedom we lose freedom
- Conscience is a judgment of reason (intellect) in which we choose good and avoid evil
- Conscience does not define something as good or evil
- A conscience can be well formed, mal-formed (in error), or dead (not working)
- We have a duty to form our conscience. Ignorance is not an excuse if one does not actively form ones conscience
- We form our conscious through the Word or God and the teaching of the Church, the gifts of the Holy Spirit, the advice of wise people, and good moral formation by parents and those in authority.
- The general norms of conscience are
 - Never to do evil that good can happen
 - The golden rule
 - Charity towards one's neighbor
- For a person to be responsible for a moral action one needs: freedom and knowledge of the action.
- The moral goodness of an act is based on:
 - Goodness of the object—the object must be good
 - Of the means taken to achieve the object—the means undertaken must be good. The end does not justify the mean
 - The circumstances of the situation—can increase or diminish responsibility, but they cannot change the good or evil of the act
- There are acts that are always and everywhere wrong in and of themselves. (murder, abortion, adultery, Ect.) they are moral evils that can never be justified

More Resources to Answer Your Questions

Videos

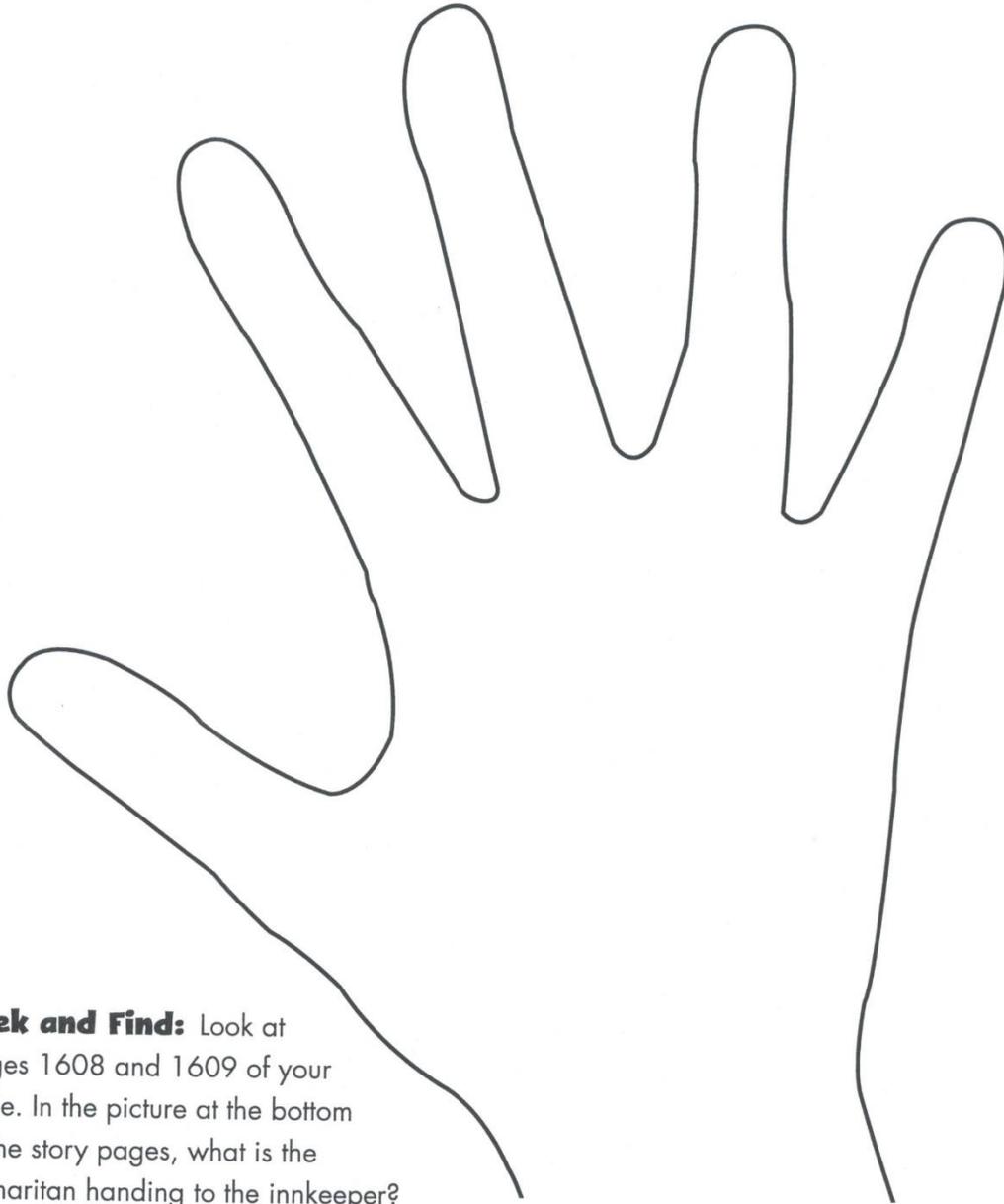
Websites

- [Catholic Answers](#)
- [Credible Catholic](#)
- [Formed.org](#)

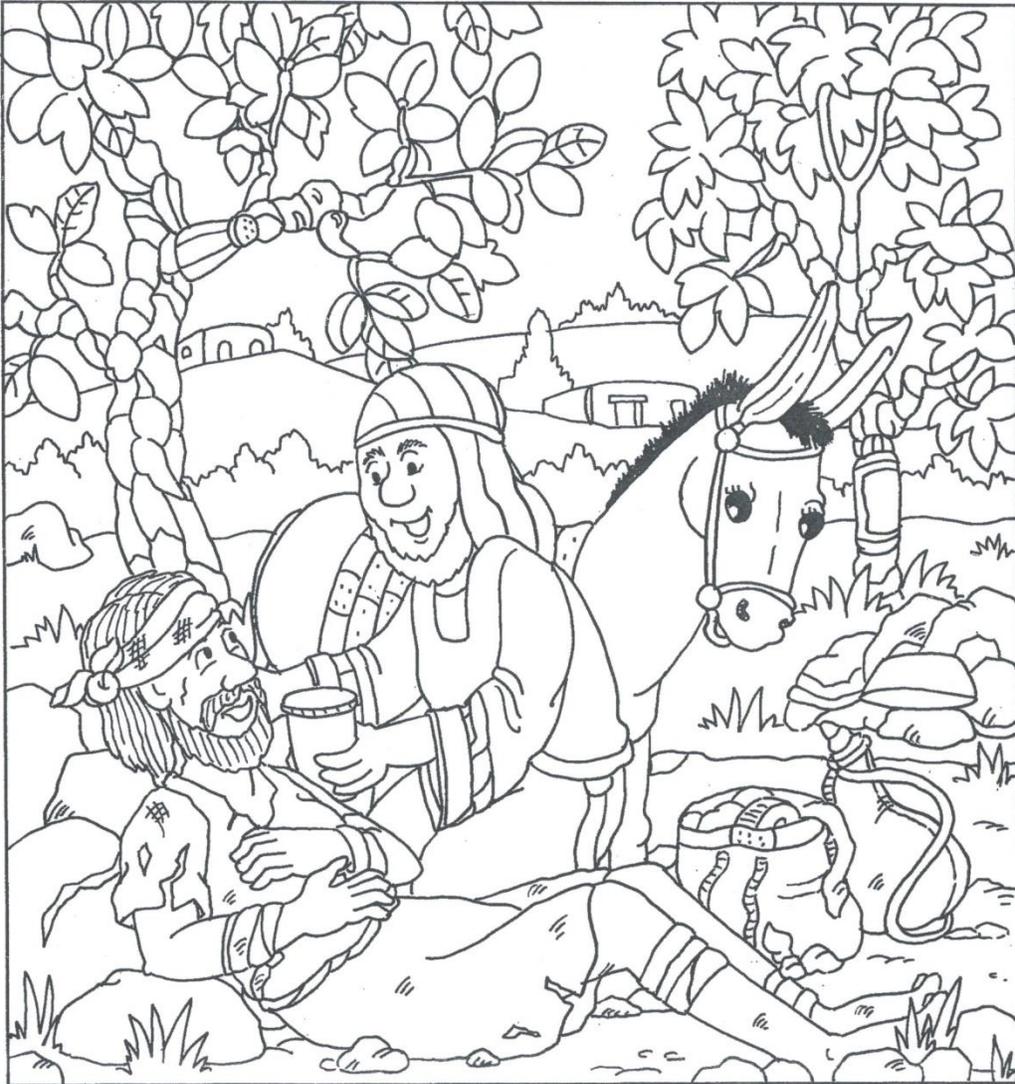
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Helping Hands

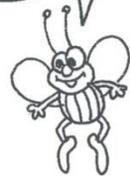
The Samaritan saw a person in need and went out of his way to take care of him. How can you lend a hand and be like the Samaritan? Write ways in each finger. Then in the palm of the hand, draw yourself being a "helping hand." Color your picture. Cut out the hand, and join it with your classmates' hands.



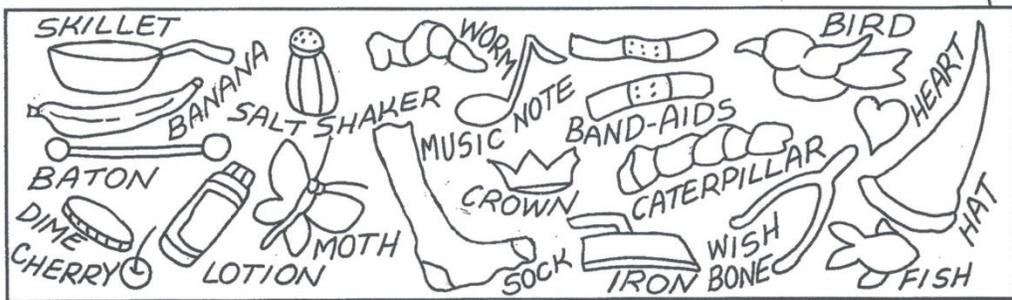
Seek and Find: Look at pages 1608 and 1609 of your Bible. In the picture at the bottom of the story pages, what is the Samaritan handing to the innkeeper?



I think his head hurts.



Do you have a First Aid kit?



Find the hidden pictures above in the puzzle.

Jesus told the story of the Good Samaritan as an example of loving your neighbor. (Read the story in Luke 10)