
“Unity in Christ”

Bible Lesson for Kids to Promote Racial Reconciliation



As sinful creatures in a fallen world, we know that we are inclined to do and think things that are wrong. Unfortunately, one of the side effects of sin is inequality in how we treat one another. We have a propensity to judge others, and sometimes to discriminate based on things that cannot be helped. This is nothing new. We see it in the Bible frequently, and throughout history. Misjudging others sparks controversy, violence, and war. It is important to early on instill in children an understanding that God has made all people the same, and He loves each and every one of us. Looking at unity and justice in a Sunday School context may vary somewhat, depending on the circumstances and audience of your group. Here are several potential activities and stories to explore that deal with the topic of race and equality.

Lesson focus: God makes us all unique, but He creates us in His image and loves each and every person. Jesus died for all of us, and when we consider others, we should remember that they are worthy of Christ’s love and sacrifice. God wants us to care for one another and remember that on the inside, we are all alike. We identify ourselves as children of God, ruler and creator of the universe.

Passage: Various, depending on the focus of your lesson. Several options include:

- Genesis 1:26-28
- 1 John 3
- John 14:21-31
- Luke 10:25-37
- Acts 10:9-33
- 1 Corinthians 12

Target Audience: Kindergarten-6th grade (or whoever you might have at home!)

Materials Needed: Construction paper, decorative materials, paper plates, scissors, glue or tape, coloring supplies, glitter, Bible (all optional, depending which activities you choose to use—except for the Bible, you need that for sure).



Lesson Opening Game Activity

Lesson Opening: There are many potential ways that we can open the topic of love, equality, and human dignity. We want to communicate with kids that their identity, as well as the identity and worth of others, comes from who they are in Christ and what He has done for them. Consider discussing this as you open the lesson (note: most of these elements could be used at home or in a larger group setting). Here are some activities to get kids thinking...(select the best ones for your audience and age group):

- Have children come up with several words that they could use to describe themselves. Begin with features that characterize their appearance or outer distinctions, but then have them brainstorm descriptions of who they are on the inside (personality, etc.).
- Take a look at fruits, several varieties of the same kind of fruit (for example, granny smith, golden, and red delicious apples). Note differences in size, shape, and color. Peel the fruits to reveal the same flesh on the inside. Explain that people might look, sound, and even act uniquely, but on the inside we are all people, loved by God.
- Play cooperative musical chairs (note: not recommended if you are trying to enforce distance practices): rather than focusing on getting kids “out” and being the last person with a chair, encourage students to come up with ways that they can share chairs so that everyone has a spot, even when some chairs are removed.
- Team dramatics: form a group of 3-5 kids, and give them an item or animal to act out, such as a car, giraffe, or tree. Have different students take different parts of the body/object, and encourage them to work together to act it out.
- Discuss the concept of disagreement...who are people that students tend to argue with or not care for as much? What makes it difficult to get along with people sometimes?

Remind children that God has made all people, and loves us dearly. We can get frustrated with people, and sometimes we get confused because people are different than us or we think appearances change us. We might even see others who act out of similar confusion. But we can rejoice that we know on the inside we are the same and can be part of God’s body of believers!

Ask: Have you ever judged someone based on how they look? How do you think you could keep yourself from doing this, or see others the way God sees them?



Bible Lesson on Unity and Racial Reconciliation

As always, how you choose to experience the story will vary according to the ages and abilities of your children (and how many are participating). For this lesson, consider highlighting several verses on the concept of love, and/or review a Biblical story on the importance of loving and accepting all people. It is worth mentioning that children might consider “love” to be merely a feeling, and they might struggle with the idea of loving people who are unkind, or different, or not close to them. Remind kids that we don’t have to be “in love” with all people, but that we do need to treat them with respect and dignity, recognizing that God loves all people equally. Feel free to review the stories with video clips, puppet show reenactments, children’s Bibles, or whatever method works best for you to communicate the verses and stories. Here are a few potential passage options (of course, there are many more):

Genesis 1:26-28: God has made ALL people in HIS image

1 John 3 The importance of love and what it means to love one another

John 14:21-31 We are known, and prove Christ’s love, when we love one another

Luke 10:25-37 Who is my neighbor? The story of the Good Samaritan; we might think only certain people can do what God wants, but all people are His people!

Acts 10:9-33 The story of Peter and Cornelius: God reveals that the Gospel good news is for all people, nations, and backgrounds.

1 Corinthians 12 : We are one in the body of Christ; there is unity when we work together!

Whichever passage or story you choose to focus on, make sure the emphasis of the lesson is on God’s love for us, and our love for one another. We might think our appearance, or the outer coverings of others, define and identify us. This is simply not so! We recognize that God made us from the inside out, and each of us is made in His image. We are sons and daughters of God, brothers and sisters in Christ. Why don’t we just get along together?!

Crafts: “Peace Plate”, “Unity in the Body Mosaic,” self-portrait or self-puppet



Follow up/Additional Activities

- Research incidents of discrimination or Civil Rights movements, and relate to appreciation of modern topics.
- Find a local justice cause that you can involve yourself with
- Write a card or letter to someone you haven't talked to in awhile.

More Teaching Help about Racial Reconciliation

- See our [resource list for teaching against racism](#)
- [Anti-racism Bible lesson for kids](#)
- [The Gospel in Color – Racial reconciliation series for kids](#)



“Unity in Christ” Craft Ideas for Racial Reconciliation

It is all too unfortunate, but discrimination and prejudice seem an ever-present element of life in a sinful world. It is important to raise children to recognize that God has made all people in His image. Despite outer differences and visual variations, Christ died for all and on the inside, we are all alike, called to spread the Gospel to everyone. These crafts are aimed at reminding students of our oneness in Jesus, as well as the importance of bringing peace to the communities around us.

Bible Verses or Craft Captions to Consider...

*So God created man in his own image,
in the image of God he created him;
male and female he created them. -Genesis 1:27*

For this is the message that you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another... But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? ¹⁸Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth. -1 John 3:11, 17-18

ALL are precious in His sight....let us love one another!

Saved by grace... Jesus loves everyone!

United in the body of Christ!

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- [The Gospel in Color – Racial reconciliation series for kids](#)



Craft one: "Human Mosaic"

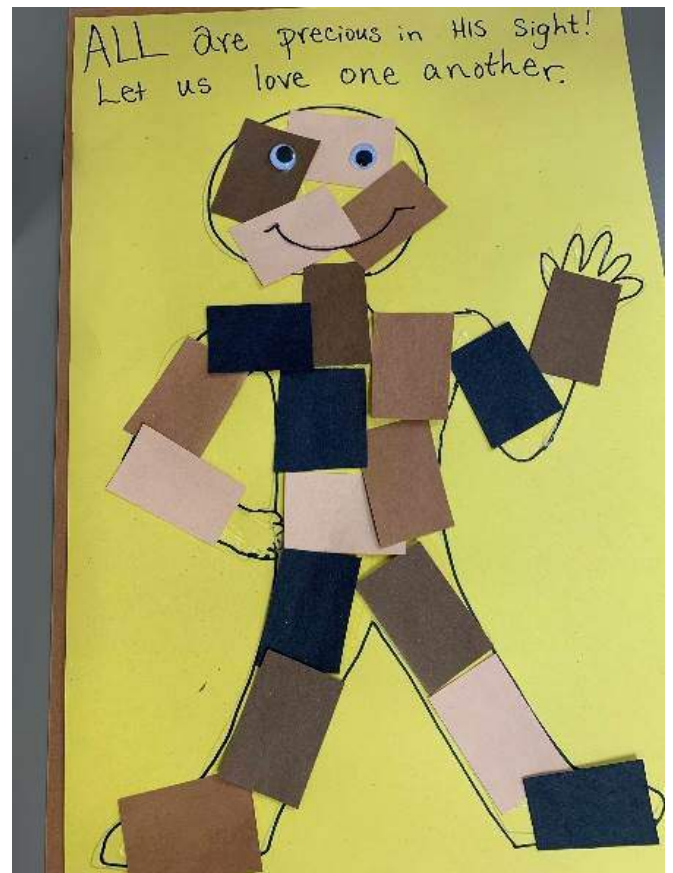
You will need:

- Construction paper or card stock
- Markers, stickers, or other decorating materials
- Glue
- Scissors
- Googly eyes or decorations (if desired)



Procedure:

1. Draw a person shape on a large piece of paper; or trace an actual body on a REALLY large piece of paper.
2. Cut or tear pieces of paper in various colors.
3. Glue the pieces of paper inside the body shape.
4. Add extra decorative features (eyes, facial features, etc.) as desired.
5. Add a verse or caption, and string if you'd like to hang the picture.



Craft Two: “Peace Plate”

You will need:

- Paper plates
- String or pipe cleaner (to hang up)
- Scissors
- Markers or crayons
- Stickers, glitter, or decorative supplies
- Glue
- Ruler (optional)
- Cross-shaped paper or foam piece



Procedure:

1. Draw a “peace sign” on the paper plate (use a ruler for extra precision).
2. Color and decorate the peace sign with markers, crayons, or colored pencils.
3. Carefully cut away the “pie wedge” parts of the plate that are not included in the peace sign.
4. Add extra decorations as desired: glitter, stickers, etc.
5. Attach a hanging device (string/pipe cleaner) and cross, if available. Add a verse or caption.





These craft ideas were prepared by [Kristin Schmidt](#), who serves at the Epiphany Lutheran Church in Castle Rock, CO.

She has shared her teaching gifts through *Ministry-To-Children* since 2014 and now serves as our lead curriculum writer.

Kristin has a professional background in elementary and pre-school education. A graduate of Biola University, she holds a Master of Education and will receive the Master of Theology degree from Concordia University, Irvine, California, in May

2020. Kristin grew up in southern California and lived the past 10 years in Georgia. She is a long-distance runner and voracious reader.

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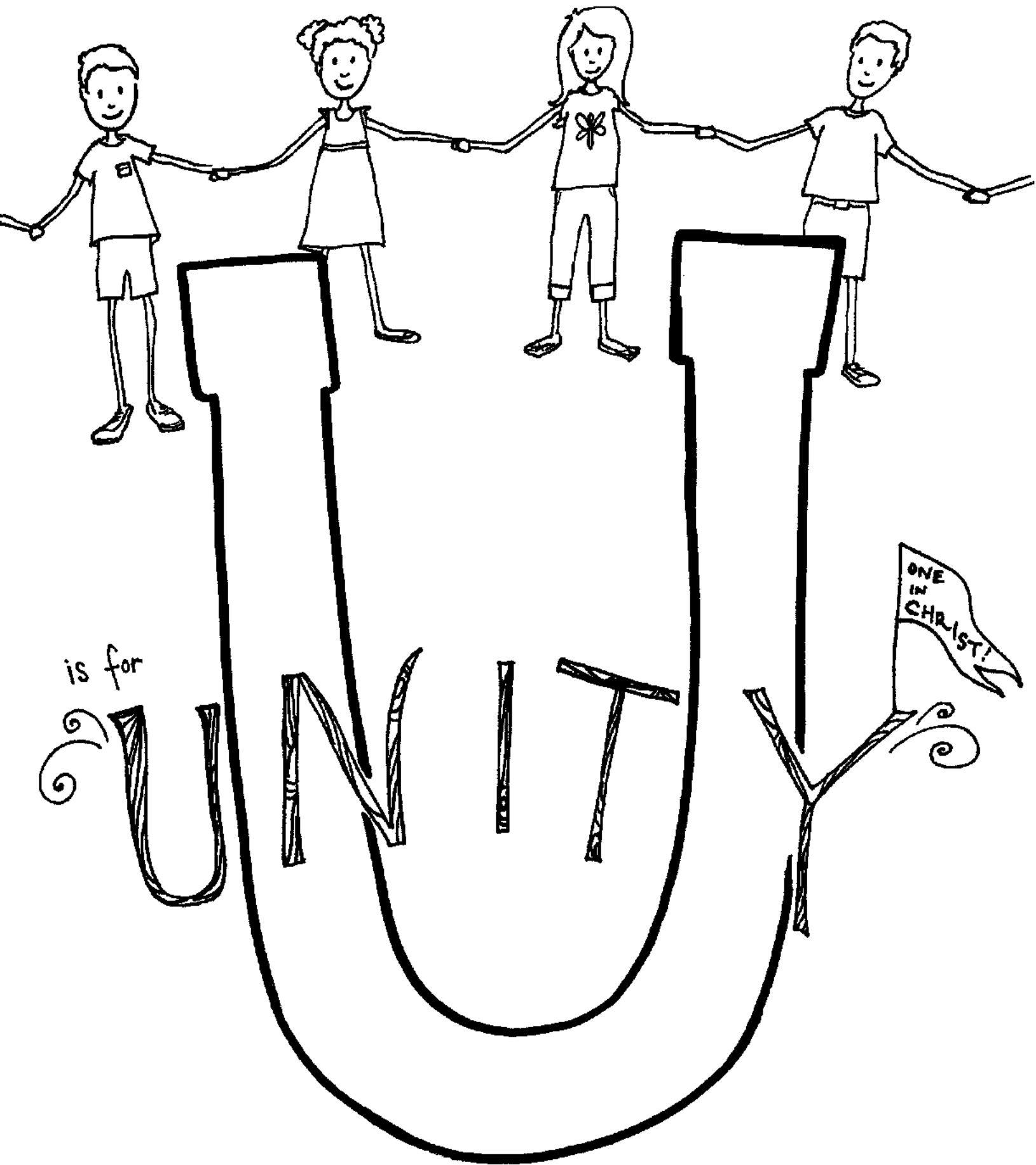
Help you tell kids about Jesus!

Our team is honored that you choose our material. Thank you for ... serving where God has placed you - telling children about Jesus – and allowing us to be a part of your mission.

Our website now has over 4,000 free resources for your children's ministry. Each month we're adding even more! Here are a few popular sections:

- Over 300 Coloring Pages [Bible Coloring Pages](#).
- Over 700 [Bible Lessons](#) and Complete [Sunday School Curriculum](#)
- We post new [Children's Sermons Object Lessons](#) every week.
- [Sunday School Games](#), [Bible Crafts](#), and [Worship Songs for Kids](#)
- Don't miss our new sister sites [Sunday School Works!](#) and [the Sunday School Store](#).



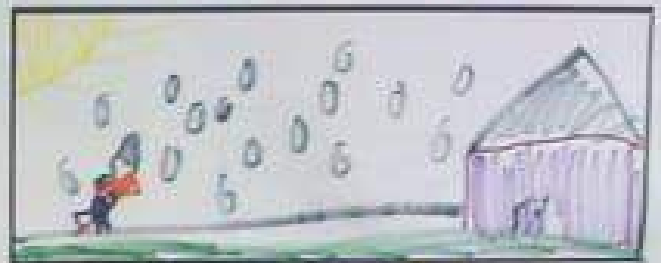


YOU SHALL
LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR
AS YOURSELF.



MATTHEW 22:39

YOU SHALL
LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR
AS YOURSELF.



MATTHEW 22:39

YOU SHALL *Andie*
LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR
AS YOURSELF.



MATTHEW 22:39

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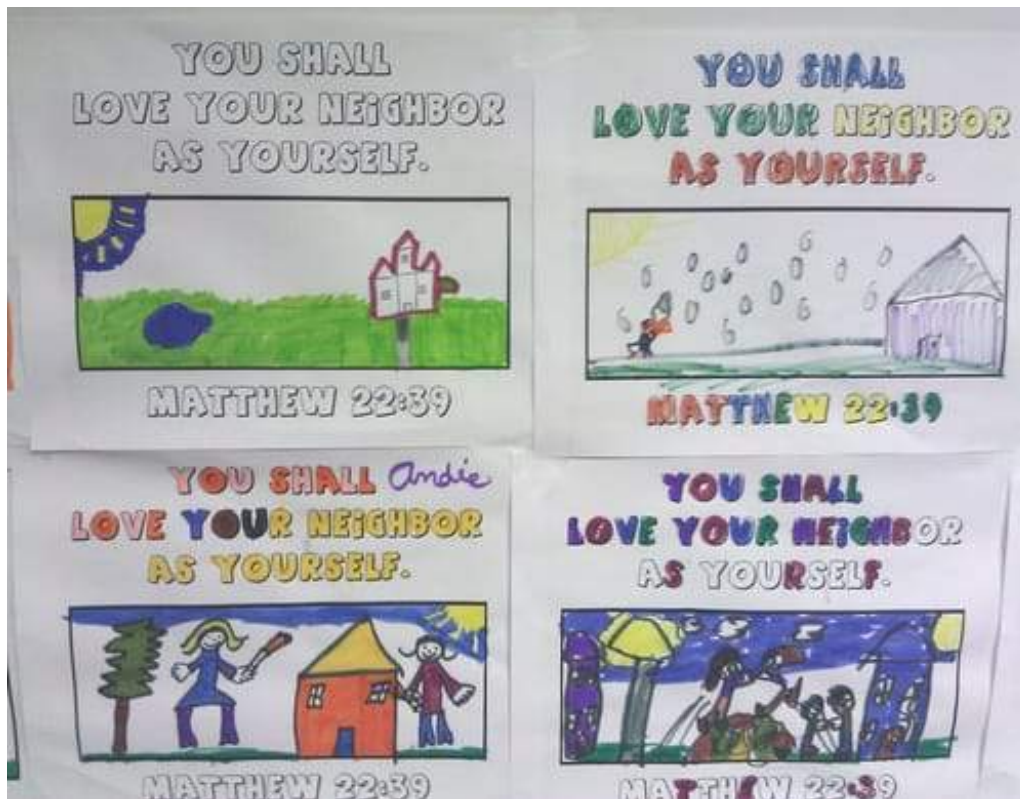


MATTHEW 22:39

"Love Your Neighbor" Coloring Page Activity (Matthew 22:39)

ministry-to-children.com/love-your-neighbor-coloring-page/

February 16, 2011



I created this simple coloring worksheet for kids in our church to help them memorize Matthew 22:39. I used the Agent Orange font and then drew a simple box. The kids were instructed to illustrate anything in that box that reminded them to love other people. We used this in children's church with ages 5 – 10 years old.

The best part is when you make time for kids to explain what they created in the box and how that shows God's love to others.

Directions: You can download the [print friendly version](#) by clicking on the preview image to the right. I've also uploaded the [jpeg](#) for advanced editing.

I recommended doing an example page on your own and explaining that to the kids before they begin. Some examples of what you could illustrate:

- I help wash dishes to show love to my family.
- I shared my lunch with someone who didn't bring enough food.
- I gave money to the mission fund.



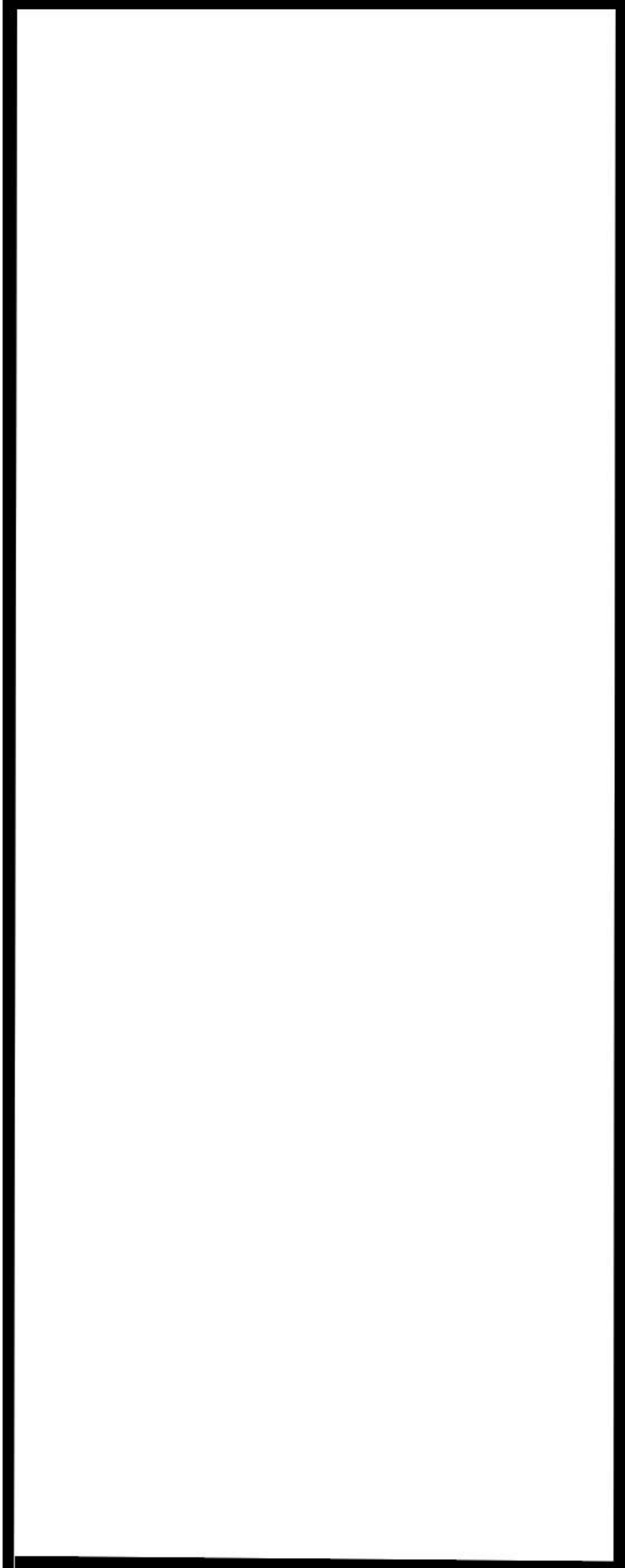
- I told my friend about Jesus and invited them to VBS.
- I spend time when my grandma when she is feeling lonely.

This is a nice activities with any Love your neighbor Sunday School lesson.

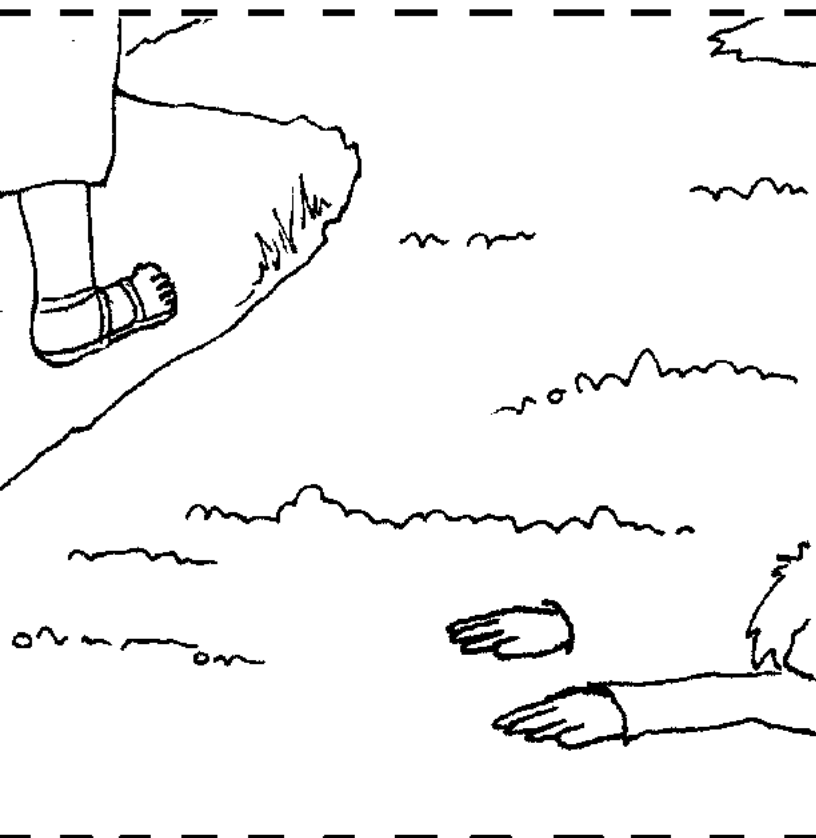
This was part of a larger series in our kids church about Jesus' teaching on the greatest commandments. Be sure to browse all of our printable coloring pages for kids.

YOU SHALL

**LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR
AS YOURSELF.**



MATTHEW 22:39



the good Samaritan

Luka 10



1.

A man is
attacked
by robbers!

2.

A priest
passes him by.

3.

A Levite
offers no help.

4.

A Samaritan
shows loving
kindness.

We hope you enjoy this free resource.

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I'm Tony Kummer - I started this website in 2007, but God is using it beyond my imagination. The mission is simple.

Help you tell kids about Jesus!

Our team is honored that you choose our material. Thank you for ...

- serving where God has placed you.
- telling children about Jesus.
- allowing us to be a part of your mission.

We don't ask for money, but we do need your help.

Please consider the following:

1. Comment on the website to encourage our authors.
2. Link to us from your blog or church website.
3. Share our posts on Pinterest or Facebook.
4. Tell a friend to google "Ministry to Children."
5. Add me (and our team) to your personal prayer list.

Ministry-To-Children



I'd love to hear your feedback on this download. Tony@ministry-to-children.com

May God bless you and continue to bless your ministry!