

Who's Your Neighbor?



MAIN POINT

Jesus crossed boundaries so that you could have a right relationship with God.

MAIN BIBLE VERSE

Romans 5:8; Ephesians 2:8-9

For Students to hear and clearly understand sin, separation, substitution, grace, and personal response. And are given a direct opportunity to put their faith and trust in Christ.

Teaching Script / Guide

HOOK:

- **Is everyone having a good time?!**
 - Listen... we're going to get back to Dodgeball in a little bit, but first, I want to ask you something... How did you get here?
 - I don't mean what mode of transportation did you use or which roads did you take...
 - I mean, what set of circumstances led to you sitting where you're sitting right now.
 - Maybe you're a member of our church and you've heard us announcing this for weeks and you've been hype ever since.
 - Maybe you're here and you're not hype. Maybe you hate dodgeball but you're doing a friend a solid. Your only role might be as the human shield for your team, but you showed up!
 - Maybe you've never been here before in your life, but let me say... I'm glad you're here... but again... how did you get here?
- I'm willing to bet you're here because SOMEONE, maybe it was me, a small group leader, a friend, your parent... you're here because SOMEONE invited you to be here.
 - Maybe they saw you in the hall and found the guts to walk up to you.
 - Maybe they sat with you at lunch and told you about tonight.
 - Maybe a parent or a caregiver heard about it and decided to tell you about it... they may have even dropped you off against your will...
- But for most of us in this room, you are here tonight, hopefully having a good time, because someone moved toward you.
- And that's exactly what I want to talk about tonight... moving towards someone. That's actually what tonight is all about. It's all about a man named Jesus and how he moved toward each and every one of us.

THE STORY OF THE GOOD SAMARITAN

- **Jesus once told a story. You can find it in the Bible in the book of Luke.**
 - A man was traveling on a dangerous road when he was attacked, robbed, and left half dead on the side of the road.

- He couldn't stand
- He couldn't fight back
- He couldn't save himself.
- In this story, Jesus talked about two religious leaders who walked by.
 - They saw him... but they ignored him. In fact, they crossed to the other side of the road and walked right by him.
- Then Jesus said something shocking...
 - A Samaritan... an enemy... someone from a group that people normally disliked came along and instead of crossing the road, he moved toward the man who was beaten.
 - **He stopped.**
 - **He treated the wounds.**
 - **He carried him.**
 - **He paid for him.**
 - **He promised to come back.**
 - **He didn't just feel bad... he paid the cost.**
 - And Jesus closes out that story by telling the crowd that was listening, "Now go and do the same".

THE TWIST

- **Most of us hear that story and think: "I get the lesson. I should be more like the Samaritan."**
 - And that's true... But here's the twist.
 - What if we're not the Samaritan?
 - What if we're the man in the road?
 - Beaten up by the world.
 - Unable to fix ourselves.
 - Stuck and hopeless.
- The Bible says that every one of us has sinned.
 - Not just "made mistakes." We've chosen our way over God's.
 - And sin separates us from Him.
 - Not because God is harsh — but because He is holy.
 - And here's the part we don't like:
 - We cannot fix ourselves.
 - You can't:
 - Be good enough
 - Be popular enough
 - Be moral enough
 - Go to church enough
 - To erase sin.
- We needed someone to cross the road toward us.

THE RESCUE:

- **Romans 5:8 says: "While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."**
 - **Jesus didn't wait for us to clean up our lives. He stepped in.**
 - **On the cross, Jesus paid the cost.**
 - **Not money or effort.**
 - **Jesus gave His life. There was a great exchange that happened.**
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- **He gave us His life and He took...**
 - **Our guilt**
 - **Our shame**
 - **Our punishment**
 - **He became our substitute.**
 - **Just like the Samaritan paid for the injured man... Jesus paid for us. And then He rose from the dead.**
 - **Which means:**
 - **Sin doesn't win.**
 - **Death doesn't win.**
 - **Shame doesn't win.**
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THE RESPONSE

- **The story of the Good Samaritan shows us what love looks like. And the Gospel shows us what God's love did.**
 - But here's the question: Have you trusted Him?
 - Not... do your parents believe?
 - Or have you been to church?
 - Or do you try to be good?
 - Have you personally trusted Jesus?
 - The Bible says we are saved by grace through faith.
 - Grace means you don't earn it.
 - Faith means you trust Him.
 - You admit "I can't save myself."
 - And you believe: "Jesus already paid for me."
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INVITATION (Slow the Room)

- Some of you came tonight because a friend invited you.
- Maybe you didn't expect to hear this, but maybe this is the real reason you're here.
- If you know:
 - You need forgiveness
 - You're tired of carrying guilt
 - You want a fresh start
 - You want a real relationship with God
- You can respond tonight.

(Not hype. Calm. Clear.)

- Guide them in a simple prayer:
 - Admit sin
 - Believe Jesus died and rose
 - Choose to follow Him
 - Encourage them to talk to a leader afterward.
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LAND THE POINT (1 Minute)

- **Someone may have gone out of their comfort zone to invite you here tonight**
 - **But long before that... Jesus came down from heaven for you.**
 - **That's love. And that's the Gospel. That's Good News.**
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