



CLASSROOM IDEA

SOLIDARITY SKITS

This activity invites the students to consider the Parable of the Good Samaritan in light of their own community dynamic and create a skit that challenges discrimination.

- 1** Begin by asking the students to individually read the Parable of the Good Samaritan, in Luke 10:25–37, and the Catholic social teaching article “Who Is the Samaritan?” from *The Catholic Youth Bible (CYB)*. Then have them write an answer to the first reflection question: “Who are the Samaritans in your community—that is, the culture or people that others judge and reject?”

- 2** In a class discussion, ask the students to identify modern-day Samaritans and to explain why these people face discrimination. Write responses on the board. Answers will vary, but they could include homeless people, people with mental illness, the elderly, people of different races or faith traditions, homosexuals, and so on. Remind the students that this conversation is a sensitive one, and the learning environment must be respectful of all people.

3 Arrange the students into small groups. Assign each small group one of the people or groups that the students identified as modern-day Samaritans. Have each small group write a script for a parable that includes the character of the modern-day Samaritan. The parable should not follow the story line of the original Good Samaritan parable but should demonstrate a current community situation where the modern-day Samaritan is the surprise hero. The entire small group must have roles written into the script, as the parable will be performed as a skit. Invite the small groups to perform their skits. After each presentation, analyze the content of the skit, considering how the story line challenges discrimination.

4 At the end of the activity, have the students individually write a response to the final question in the article: “What can you do to better live in solidarity with all people in your community?” Remind the students that Jesus constantly preached a message of solidarity where everyone was included, especially those considered outcasts. As disciples, we are called to do the same. Conclude by brainstorming possible ways to confront discrimination.

This activity is taken from *Catholic Social Teaching Activities*, which is part of the online resources for *The Catholic Youth Bible*, fourth edition.