

Prayers for Ordinary Time

Scripture Focus: Luke 10:25–37 (The Greatest Commandment and the Parable of the Good Samaritan)

Opening Prayer

Leader: Let us begin our prayer with the Sign of the Cross.

All: In the name of the Father . . .

Leader: In this Gospel, Jesus tells us the story of the Good Samaritan. The Samaritan was good because he helped someone in need.

Reader: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Reader then reads the Scripture passage above from Breakthrough! The Bible for Young Catholics.

Leader: Let us pray that we can all be Good Samaritans! Our response is, “Help us to be Good Samaritans, O Lord.”

All: Help us to be Good Samaritans, O Lord.

Leader: When we are tempted to use mean words against others . . .

All: Help us to be Good Samaritans, O Lord.

Leader: When we are tempted to leave others out . . .

All: Help us to be Good Samaritans, O Lord.

Leader: When we are tempted to bully others just because we can . . .

All: Help us to be Good Samaritans, O Lord.

Leader: When we are inspired to help someone who needs our help . . .

All: Help us to be Good Samaritans, O Lord.

Leader: When we are inspired to give something away to someone who needs it more than we do . . .

All: Help us to be Good Samaritans, O Lord.

Leader: When we are inspired to pray for all those who are hurting or in need . . .

All: Help us to be Good Samaritans, O Lord.

Closing Prayer

Leader: Today we learned that loving God, ourselves, and others is the meaning of the Gospel. Let us pray to live the Gospel each and every day:

Lord Jesus,

Thank you for telling us the story of the Good Samaritan. Help us to be Good Samaritans in our families, our schools, and with our friends and neighbors. Thank you, Lord Jesus, for showing us the way. Amen.



Ritual Guide

Opening Prayer

Preparation

Choose several readers to take turns reading this Gospel passage. You may want to take the part of Jesus in verses 10 through 36, the story of the Good Samaritan.

Optional: Choose an appropriate song to begin and end the prayer.

Gather

Gather the group in the Bible corner. Distribute the prayer handouts. Briefly rehearse the prayer response, noting that we will be hearing more about what it means to be a Good Samaritan in the Gospel reading.

Pray

Begin with the Sign of the Cross as indicated.

Introduce the reading with the words given, or in your own words.

At the close of this prayer, collect the handouts and set them aside for the closing prayer.

(An activity for Ordinary Time, featuring the Parable of the Good Samaritan, can be found in chapter 10 of the *Breakthrough! Leader Guide*.)

Closing Prayer

Preparation

This closing prayer is based on the Parable of the Good Samaritan.

Gather

Gather the middle schoolers in the Bible corner and distribute the handouts. Explain that in this prayer we ask Jesus to help us to do good to others, to be Good Samaritans, each and every day.

Pray

Invite the group to pray the prayer together.

Optional: End with the song you chose for the opening prayer.

