

CONSIDER THE SOURCE

It was unexpected that the Samaritan would be the good neighbor, wasn't it? The Lord wants us to look for good in all people and be careful of making rash assumptions.

Is it possible that we may be guilty of "prejudice" in favor of ideas suggested by our friends and against people we don't know as well? We may even follow a bad idea, just because one of our friends suggests it! Or we may reject a good idea because we don't like the person suggesting it.

Is the morality inherent in a proposed action? In the person who suggests it? Or in the two taken together? Write some possible actions on slips of paper to be placed in one bowl. Use another bowl for slips of paper with people hypothetically suggesting actions (such as teacher, friend, football hero, a drug addict, mother, police officer, rock star, *etc.*) Draw an action from one bowl and a proponent of the action from another (without looking). Discuss whether or not it would be a good thing to do. Repeat several times.

Can you make a decision based solely on the action slip or the person slip? Or do you need to look at them together?

Sample actions:

Enter a race to collect money for charity
Sneak into your neighbor's swimming pool while they are away on vacation
Invite most of your classmates to a party, but not all of them
Donate money to support a needy child in another country
Write a thank you letter
Enter someone's house when they aren't home
Babysit or clean someone's house as a gift

Sample of people suggesting the actions:

Teacher
Friend
A classmate you do not know very well
A police officer
Your mother