

# The Good Samaritan

Luke 10:30-35



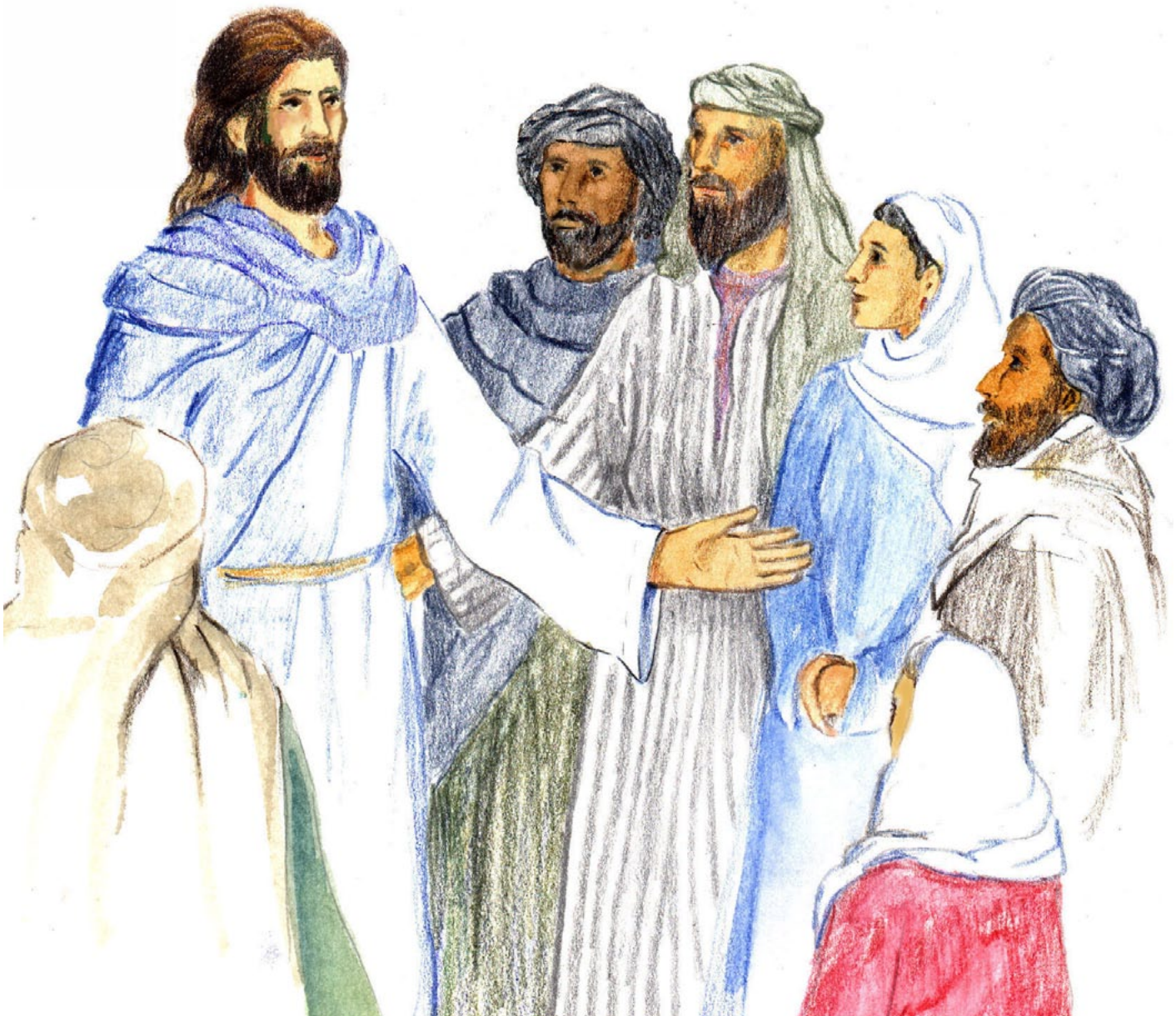
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Illustrated by Marguerite Acton

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When the Lord was on this earth, He taught people about love. He told parables or stories to help people understand. Here is one of the Lord's parables about kindness and giving.

A man was traveling on the lonely road from Jerusalem to Jericho. Bad thieves attacked the man. They stole his clothes, hurt him, and left him lying on the road.







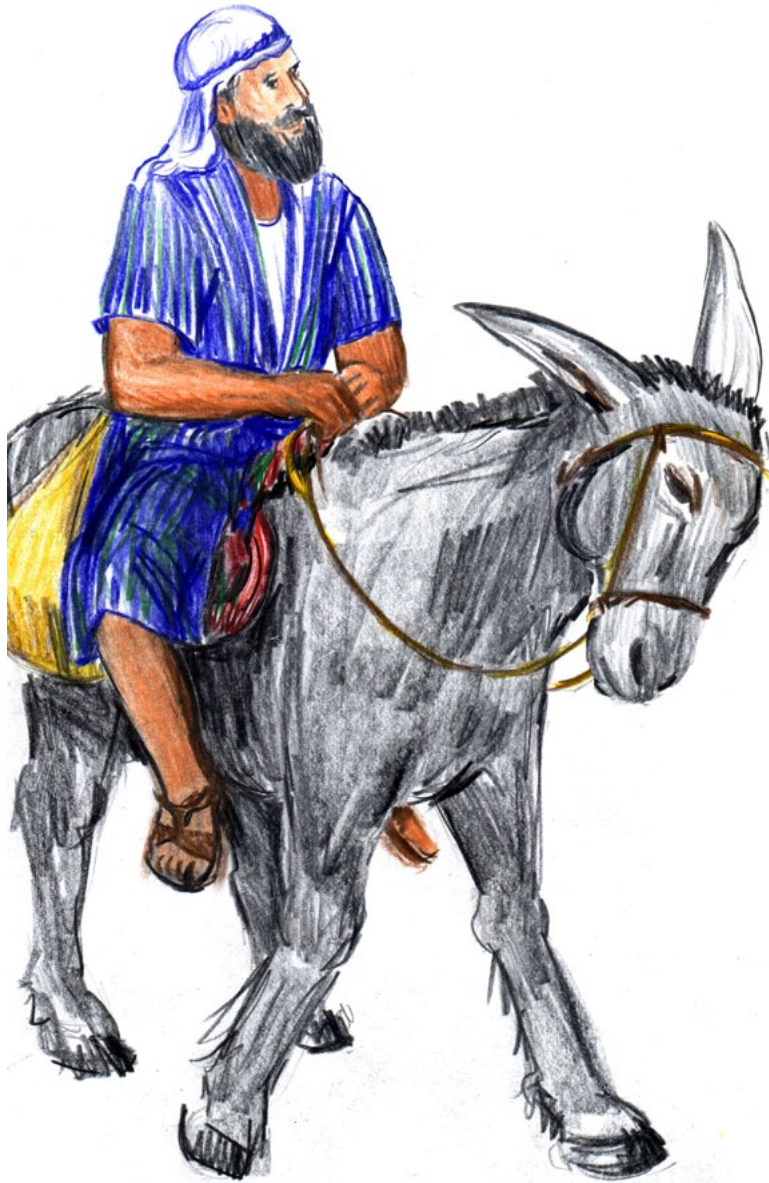
Three people came along the road and saw the hurt man. The first was a priest. A priest is another name for a minister. One of a minister's jobs is to teach people to love others. But he did not stop to help him. He kept walking and passed by on the other side of the road.



The second man was a man of the tribe of Levi whose people helped care for the things used for worship in Israel. He looked at the man, saw that he was hurt, but hurried away on the other side of the road.

Why didn't these two men help the man who was hurt? Because they didn't care about him or feel sorry for him. They thought only about themselves and what they wanted to do. They didn't love their neighbor like they loved themselves.



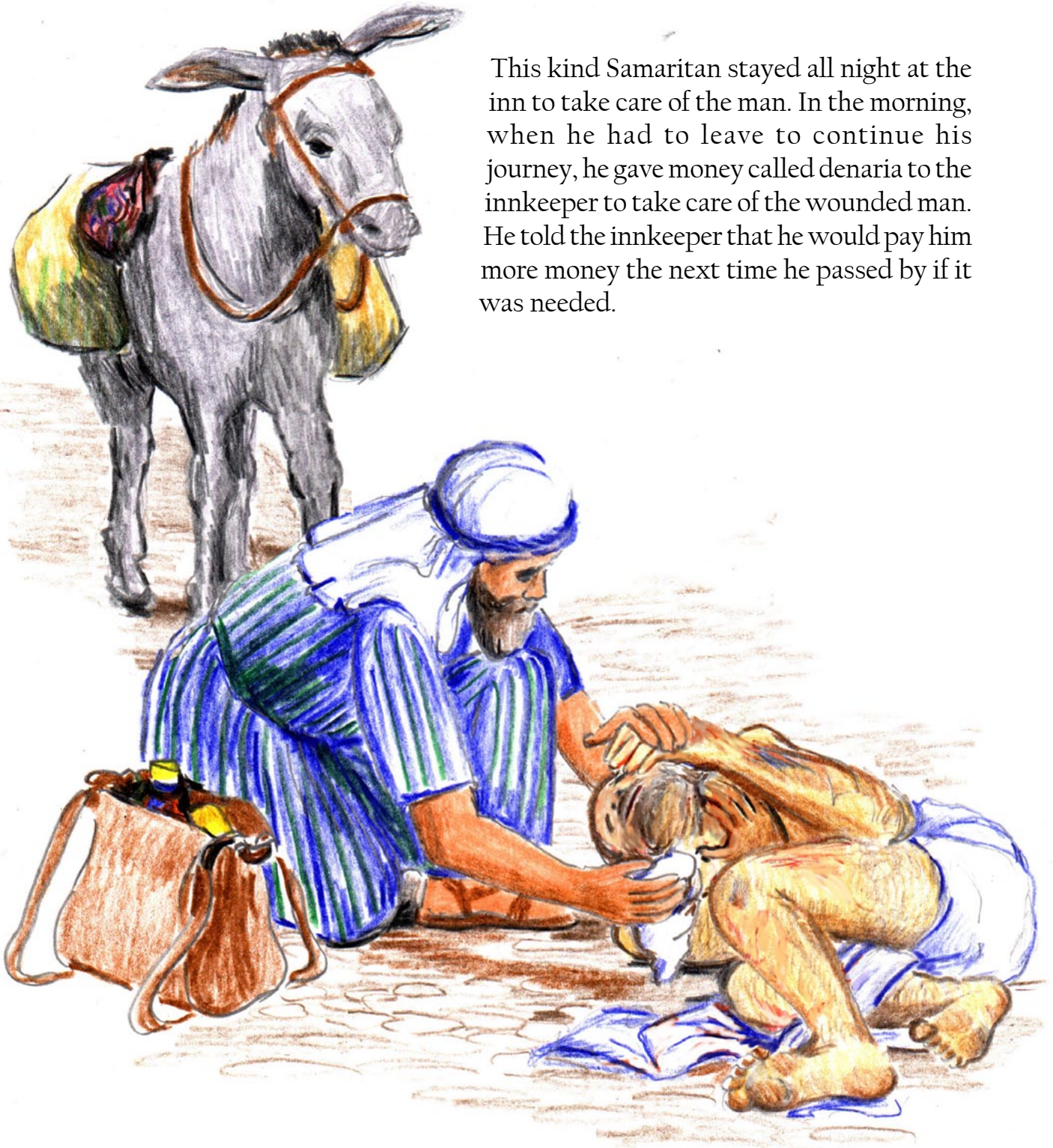


Finally, the third man came along. He was called a Samaritan because he came from another country called Samaria; he didn't live in the land of Israel. No one thought a Samaritan would help because he was a stranger. But, he felt sorry when he saw the man suffering on the road.

The Samaritan didn't hurry away like the priest or Levite. He made bandages, and poured oil and wine on the man's hurts to clean and help them heal. Then he lifted the man onto his donkey and took him to an inn.



This kind Samaritan stayed all night at the inn to take care of the man. In the morning, when he had to leave to continue his journey, he gave money called denaria to the innkeeper to take care of the wounded man. He told the innkeeper that he would pay him more money the next time he passed by if it was needed.



We can imagine how thankful the wounded man must have felt toward the man who had saved his life. The Samaritan showed love to the hurt man, even though they didn't know each other. And the Lord said we should also feel sorry for people who are sad or sick or lonely or hurt and we should try to help them.

Imagine if you saw someone who needed help and was alone on the road. Which of the three men in the Lord's parable would you want to come by, the priest, the Levite, or the Samaritan?

The Lord wants you to be kind and helpful to others, too.





The people listening to the parable said the Samaritan was the neighbor because he had mercy for the hurt man. Mercy means compassion, and compassion is a feeling of sadness for the suffering or troubles of other people. It is also wanting to help and wanting to be kind. The Lord wants to help everyone because He loves everyone.

The Lord also can give us the gift of compassion or caring for other people. He gives it to mothers for their children. A mother wants to comfort and take care of her crying baby. The Lord also can give it to friends who want to help each other.

The Lord wants us to feel compassion for those who are needy or suffering. He tells us that we should feel sadness for another person who is suffering as we do for ourselves when we are hurt.(see Arcana Coelestia 351).

That is why the Lord said to the people after telling them this parable: “Go, and do likewise.” Go do the same and be kind.

