

middle school



Lesson 13 / August 30, 2020

Love Who?

By Kelsey Grulke

for use as
STEP 1 

Lesson 13

Focus:

Be a neighbor to whoever needs one.

Lesson 13

Bible Basis:

Luke 10:29-37

Lesson 13

Memory Verse:

“Love your neighbor as yourself.”
—Luke 10:27b

Students will watch a video about cleaning up Beirut after the recent explosion and discuss how it relates to being a neighbor to others.

Materials:

Internet access

As the students enter, ask them to share a about a time when someone helped them in a big way. Share one of your own memories as well!

When other people help or serve us, it shows that they love and care about us.

The city of Beirut (bay-root), in the country of Lebanon, was recently affected by a large explosion. Many people lost their homes, thousands of people were injured, and some people even lost their loved ones in this disaster.

Watch this recent news story about people loving others through serving them:

Play the video for the class [0:00-0:45]:

Title: Deadly explosion in Beirut: How to help to the victims in Lebanon

Source: USA Today

URL: <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2020/08/05/beirut-explosion-how-help-victims-lebanon/3300822001/>

Short Description: Beirut citizens help clean up city after explosion

➤ **What were some of the ways you saw people serving others in this video?** (Sweeping, cleaning the streets, clearing the rubble, etc.)

➤ **What do you think people could have used as excuses to not clean up the rubble?** (Some of them may have lost homes or family members, etc.)

We can start thinking about our neighbors, whoever they might be. Jesus has a lot to say about how to treat others, especially those who are different from us, but who does that include exactly? Let’s check it out.

(Continue on to Steps 2 and 3 in your teacher’s guide; your Step 4 appears below.)

Love Who?

for use as
STEP 4 

Lesson 13**Focus:**

Be a neighbor to whoever needs one.

Lesson 13**Bible Basis:**

Luke 10:29-37

Lesson 13**Memory Verse:**

“Love your neighbor as yourself.”
—Luke 10:27b

Materials:

- Pieces of paper or index cards (1 per student)
- Pens/pencils or markers

If you are doing class online, invite students to get a piece of paper and a writing utensil (or even the “notes” section of a phone or device) to use at home.

Read the memory verse (Luke 10:27b) together with your students. If you are meeting in a physical classroom, ask them to get in pairs and complete this sentence: “One way I would appreciate being loved by my neighbors is _____.” If you are meeting online, have them take turns completing the sentence in your virtual class.

If they’re having trouble getting started, you could suggest things like “them bringing me cookies” or “playing basketball with me in the driveway” or “inviting me over to play video games,” etc.

➤ **What are some of the things you came up with for how you’d like to be treated?** (Accept all reasonable answers.)

➤ **Of those ideas, what are some that YOU could offer to your neighbors, near or far?** (Accept all reasonable answers.)

➤ **What are some other ways you could love your neighbors?** (Accept all reasonable answers. Encourage your students to consider their neighbors near AND far. Invite them to think of ways they can love that are simple and small or more complex.)

This week, your challenge is to love a neighbor each day. This could be a neighbor near or a neighbor around the world.

Make sure each student has a piece of paper and a writing utensil, whether you are meeting in person or online. Ask them to write their name at the top of the page. Then, ask them write numbers 1-7 below their name (as though to make a list).

Then, invite students to take a moment and write one neighborly act next to each number—one for each day this week. Challenge them to have some acts be for neighbors near, such as mowing the lawn for an elderly person down the street, and some for neighbors far, like writing a

thank-you card to a member of the military or praying for persecuted Christians. Each day, they can complete a neighborly act and draw a smiley face next to that item on the list. Next week, ask them to share about some of the neighborly acts they completed.

End in prayer, asking God to help us see all people as our neighbors and for the courage to follow through with loving our neighbors.

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