



Great Lent Giveaway 2013

Wish of a Child

Youth Group Session 2 – Who is My Neighbor? - Christian Almsgiving

Part 2 – Who is my Neighbor?

By Fr. Robert Holet

Ukrainian Orthodox Church Office of Stewardship

Participant Packet

Opening prayer - From the Lenten Triodion (First Wed - Vespers)

'While fasting bodily let us also fast in spirit. Let us loose e very bond of iniquity. Let us undo the know of every contract made by violence. Let us tear up all unjust agreements. Let us give bread to the hungry and welcome to our house the poor who have no roof to cover them, that we may receive great mercy from Christ our God.'

Who is my neighbor? (Parable of the Good Samaritan) Lk. 10:25-37

Who is the man who fell in with the thieves? Who are the poor today?

Question 1. The man who was the victim in the story suffered from many problems. Name as many of the bad things that happened to the man who was attacked by the robber.



Question 2. Who came down the road who could have helped him? What did they do?

Question 3. What *could* the priest and Levite done? Why do you think they chose to simply 'pass by on the other side'.

Question 4 How is the Samaritan's response different? Why is his response different?

Question 5 How do we identify those in our life who may be suffering? Have you known anyone who:

- Had no money for food, clothing or shelter?
- Have you ever talked to a homeless person? A homeless person your age?
- Suffered a beating?
- Had a really hard time in school with their studies? Was/is depressed?

Question 6 Was there ever a time when you were in a position to help someone who was in need, and ignored them? Did you mention this when you went to Confession?

In our next session we will continue to discuss the parable of the Good Samaritan. Utilize the questions we worked on in this session to reflect more on our theme. Spend time with your family discussing the *Take-home Challenge* before our next session.

Closing Reflection/Prayer - From St. John Chrysostom

"Let us not overlook such a tragedy as that. Let us not hurry past so pitiable a sight without taking pity. Even if others do so, you must not. Do not say to yourself: 'I am no priest or monk; I have a wife and children. This is a work for the priests; this is work for the monks.' The Samaritan did not say: 'Where are the priests now? Where are the Pharisees now? Where are the teachers of the Jews?' But the Samaritan is like a man who found some great store of booty and got the profit.

"Therefore, when you see someone in need of treatment for some ailment of the body or soul, do not say to yourself: 'Why did so-and-so or so-and-so not take care of him?' You free him from his sickness; do not demand an accounting from others for their negligence. Tell me this. If you find a gold coin lying on the ground, do you say to yourself: 'Why didn't so-and-so pick it up?' Do you not rush to snatch it up before somebody else does?

"Think the same way about your fallen brothers; consider that tending his wounds is like finding a treasure. If you pour the word of instruction on his wounds like oil, if you bind them up with your mildness, and cure them with your patience, your wounded brother has made you a richer man than any treasure could. Jeremiah said: 'He who has brought forth the precious from the vile will be as my mouth.' What could we compare to that? No fasting, no sleeping on the ground, no watching and praying all night, nor anything else can do as much for you as saving your brother can accomplish."

St John Chrysostom, *Eighth Homily against the*

Judaizers 4: 1-3