

"The Good Samaritan"

A Mini-Musical

Cast: An inter-generational small group from your congregation who meet regularly together for Sunday School. They have practiced and prepared this informal musical and are going to perform it for the congregation during the Sunday School time one Sunday (The Sunday in which this text appears as the Gospel for the worship service. People will then have a chance to experience the Gospel in more than one way.)

Goal: To worship God and learn the text through music

Lesson Focus: We respond to God's love for us and show God's love for others by loving our neighbors and helping them.

What's needed: Instruments - Instruments made by the group, boughten instruments or "kitchen band" instruments (mainly rhythm type instruments), a piano or electric keyboard

Opening Song suggestions: "Jesus Loves The Little Children", "Jesus Loves Me", "Jesus Loves Even Me", "Down in My Heart", "Praise Him, Praise Him", "Oh, How I Love Jesus", "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"

NOTE: None of the song suggestions lists given are exhaustive by any means and one wouldn't select them all. All songs should be accompanied by the instruments of the group. (Piano is optional but would be a nice added touch.) Those who have trouble learning the words can hum along and play their rhythm instrument.

Scene One: One or two people begin playing a rhythm they have composed with their instruments. A reader from the group reads (or improvises a tune and sings) verses 25-28 in that rhythm.

Pause for singing: "Love The Lord Your God", "Love, Love", "This Is My Commandment"

Scene Two: A new rhythm is played and verse 29 is read/sung

Pause for singing: "Who is my neighbor?" - This is a little tune the group has composed which repeats these words (Something like "who is my neighbor, my neighbor, my neighbor, who is my neighbor, my neighbor is_____") The song can be repeated with different answers to fill in the blank. The idea is for those present to recognize everyone is our neighbor. "He's God the Whole World In His Hands"

Scene Three: Verses 30-35 are read with a different instrument or recorded music being played in the background to represent each character (ex. bass drum banging for the robbers or some dark music, flute/recorder for the Samaritan, church organ for the priest, etc.) In listening and picking out the music to play for each character the cast has had a chance to select and critique music.

Pause for singing: "Walk On By", "Try A Little Kindness" "A Friend Loves at All Times" "I Love To Take A Walk"

Scene Four: Verses 36-37 are read/sung with a different rhythmn accompaniment

Ending songs: "We All Are One In Mission", "Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ" "You Are the Seed", "His Banner Over Me Is Love"

The performance would be videotaped for viewing at a later time by the cast. We imagine there would be much discussion happening informally as the musical is put together, practiced and viewed later. During that discussion various aspects of the text could be discussed as well as today's applications of the text. Of course, those issues might also be addressed in the sermon! (More useful for those of other intelligences)

NOTE: Most of the songs listed are from the LBW, WOV or Wee Sing Bible Songs Tape.