Children's Object Lesson for
Good Samaritan Society Sunday 2007

Objects required:

- Band-Aids
- A Loonie

Lesson Outline:

1. I have a brown bag with me today (show the brown bag). I have some things in the bag (Pull out a couple of band aids hold them up for people to see. Maybe pass them around). Some questions you might ask:
   - Do you know what these are?
   - Have you ever had one put on you?
   - Why did you need a band-aid?
   - How did you feel when someone put the band-aid on you?

2. Show the children a Loonie.
   - Do you know what this is?
   - What can you use a loonie for?

3. How would you have felt if while playing at a friend's place you cut yourself and started to cry and your friend's parents ignored you? Or if they said "Hey your pants are torn. Now you will be in trouble." Would you say that your friend's parents were being kind?

4. Now, what would it be like if your friend's parents had given you a hug, washed the cut and then put a band-aid on it? (Hold up a band-aid). Then they gave you a loonie to buy a popsicle? (Hold up a loonie). Would you say that your friend's parents were kind? You bet they are! And because they are kind we would say that they are a good Samaritan.

5. Tell the story of The Good Samaritan in modern day language (simplified version of story attached for reference).

6. Today I am going to talk about The Good Samaritan Society. Do you know how The Good Samaritan Society got its name? It got its name from the Parable of the Good Samaritan. The Good Samaritan Society is a group of people and special homes that care for those that are not able to care for themselves. They serve God by helping these people, especially those who have gotten old. They also have homes younger people. Some people get their meals made for them, others need help with a bath, getting dressed, or getting in or out of bed, others might need special medicines. They also provide church services and pastors for these people.

7. Guess what? You don't have to work for The Good Samaritan Society to be a "good Samaritan." We can all be kind, especially to those who need help.

8. Ask the children what are some things that they can do to be a good Samaritan. How can they be kind to other people?
   - Play with someone who nobody wants to play with.
   - Be a friend to someone new who comes to Sunday school.
   - Let your brother play with you.
   - Share your toys with a friend.
   - Give an offering in Sunday school that will help someone in need (perhaps a local, national or international project)

9. Close with a short prayer.

The Parable
Jesus told this story:

One day, a Jewish man traveling from one city to another, was attacked by a group of thieves. They took his clothes and all his money, beat him and left him beside the road half dead.

“I have to get help,” thought the man. “Otherwise I won’t make it.” Suddenly he heard someone coming down the road. “Thank goodness,” he thought, “someone will help me.” The man coming down the road was a priest. But as the wounded man waited for help, the footsteps faded. The priest simply crossed to the other side and walked on.

The wounded man lay bleeding in the ditch and getting weaker by the minute. “Maybe this is it,” he thought. “Maybe it is my time to die.” Then he heard the sound of someone else coming his way. “Could it be? Could it be someone coming to save me?” he asked himself. A Levite (a teacher in the temple) came into view. As he approached, he slowed down, stopped in front of the injured man, bent over to get a better look and then walked off quickly to the other side of the road. Not even the moans of an injured man could move him to help.

It was not long before the man heard footsteps again. By this time the man was too weak to even hope that the person would stop and help. This time the footsteps were those of a Samaritan. He was from the country Samaria. *[Comment to children: You are from the country of Canada and called a Canadian]*. Samaritans and the Jewish people did not like each other. There was not much of a chance that he would stop, much less help. But as the Samaritan hurried to the injured man, the Samaritan’s heart was touched and he wanted to help. Indeed, it turned out that the Samaritan was a good and kind man. He bent over the man and washed his wounds and wrapped them with bandages. Then he put the man on his donkey and took him to a hotel where he looked after him.

The next day the Samaritan woke up and checked on the injured man. He told him that he had to go and do some business but that the manager of the hotel would take care of him. Then the Samaritan went

to the manager, gave him money to cover his costs and said that if the bill was higher that he would pay him on his return.

His main concern was that this man received care and got better.

This is the story of the Good Samaritan.