

# Sam and the Thief

Lesson plan B

Kid Shorts



## Challenge Statement

"A ship in a harbour is safe, but that's not what a ship is built for"  
- Grace Murray Hopper

## Session Outcome

Students will engage the story of a middle class mother and daughter's experience with a poor and injured man as an introduction to connecting beyond comfort zones. They will interact with the questions such as: When is helping a needy person uncomfortable or scary for you? Why? Where do you find the courage to do the right but hard thing?

## Advance Preparation

- Prepare the videos, *Sam and the Thief*, and *Sam and the Thief: Interviews*.
- Find a current song on the theme for listening and responding to the theme.
- Collect your own list of disgusting things to start the opening discussion.

## Activity for Early Arrivals

- Have a light-hearted opening discussion about the most disgusting thing you ever ate or touched. (Depending on your group, you could challenge them to touch something that is slimy.) At the end, say that sometimes we are challenged to get over our disgust factor, and to move out of our comfort zones. Today's session includes an example of that.

## Opening Activity

- Reflect on reasons why we sometimes have to do things that we find disgusting.
- Listen and respond to the music you found on the theme.
- Read and reflect on the challenge statement.
- Think of and name people you know, who love all people, even those we might find disgusting or frightening. Think of people with courage to do the right thing, even when it is hard. Invite children to make a silent pledge to follow their example.
- Encourage children to open their hearts and minds to see the truths hidden in today's video.

## Exploring a new view

- Watch the video, *Sam and the Thief*.

# Responding

## Discuss

1. What happened after Sam insisted that they help the man who was lying on their yard?
2. The movie's title is Sam and the Thief. Do you think he was a thief? Why and why not?
3. How does this story relate to your life?
4. Have you ever helped a person who frightened you? What was it like?
5. When is helping a needy person uncomfortable or scary for you? Why?
6. Where do you find the courage to do the right but hard thing?
7. What advice would you give to someone who has the chance to help a person who scares them?
8. How can your community reach out to hurting people they find frightening?
9. Where do you find the courage to do the right but hard thing?

## Make a Difference

Discuss where your community brushes up against people who are needy but frightening. Research the ways your community is working at being good neighbours to them and others. In what new way can your group encourage your wider community to follow this challenging instruction?

Sit in a circle. Name things that you find frightening about becoming better neighbours to needy people who frighten you. Hold your fears and your hopes for becoming better neighbours up to each other and the light of love. Then, name things that you find inspiring and encouraging about becoming better neighbours.

Dream a new world: Silently imagine a world in which rich and poor, employed and unemployed people work at becoming a fair and healthy, sharing community. After two minutes or so, share your dreams with the group.

If an action plan is emerging from your group, set a date for planning next steps.

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