

Panic Lesson 31



LISTENING

Anything to photocopy? Yes

The Good Samaritan (4 copies)

Lesson on Listening (1 card for each group)

Here are the parts of this lesson:

♦ **Meet the Press** *mixer; pencil and paper*

♦ **The Good Samaritan** *dramatic sketch*

♦ **Lesson on Listening** *discussion starting contest; cut-up cards, pencils, paper*

MIXER

MEET THE PRESS

First have the kids mingle and try to find out as much as possible about each other that they did not already know. After about five minutes have the group divide up into teams or smaller groups.

One person is then chosen at random to “Meet the Press.” This person sits at the front of the room while each team receives some paper and a pencil. Each group must write the chosen person’s name on the paper and a list of 20 truthful statements about him or her. Allow another five or 10 minutes for this.

When these are completed, they are then collected and read back to the entire group (one at a time). The team with the most correct statements is declared the winner. The person being described judges the statements as to their truthfulness.

In case of a tie, extra value can be given to statements that are less obvious. For example, “born in Nebraska” (unless you live there!) or “enjoys Shakespeare” shows more insight than “has red hair.”

This exercise is not only fun, but promotes community within the group. You can adapt it in many ways, such as by having everyone make a list rather than in teams (best with smaller groups). You may also have more than one Meet the Press person per meeting.
Tom Bougher

DRAMATIC SKETCH

THE GOOD SAMARITAN

Luke 10:30-37

Pull the Good Samaritan out of the hat once more. Only this time go with the twist that this script offers. The man who was robbed and left for dead in Jesus’ parable becomes a teenage boy whose best friend has given him the brush off.

Use questions like these to spur discussion after doing the skit:

- **When someone was a good Samaritan to you, how did it make you feel?**
- **When was the last time you could have helped someone else but you were too busy or just not interested in that person? Would you do it differently now?**
- **Is there ever a time when we can do too much when we try to help someone?**

Michael J. Hotchkiss

DISCUSSION STARTING CONTEST

LESSON ON LISTENING

Most of us tend to talk more than we listen. The following exercise is designed to help your kids become aware of how easy it is to miss the messages of others.

To begin, cut the cards from Lesson on Listening.

Divide everyone into groups no larger than five people. Each group should be given one of the four cards. Everyone should then briefly answer the questions on the card for the whole group. After about five minutes the groups should exchange cards so that they have a new set of questions. As before, group members should take turns answering them.

After all of the groups have been through every category of questions, each person is given a sheet of paper and is asked to list every fact they can remember from the answers given in their discussion group. Of course, those with the better memories are at a slight advantage, but those who really tuned in and listened to others in their group (rather than concentrating on their own responses) will be able to recall the most. A prize could be given for the person with the most correct recollections on their list. A discussion on the importance of listening would be a good way to wrap up this exercise. For some helpful verses take a look at Proverbs 18:2,13; 22:17; and Ecclesiastes 3:7. *Lew Worthington*



The Good Samaritan

Luke 10:30-37

CHARACTERS

- Nathan, the victim
- Barbara, a passer-by
- Troy, a passer-by
- Sondra, the Good Samaritan

Scene: A busy street.

Time: One morning.

NATHAN: Two years with a friend and you think you know him. And then something like this happens. I feel so alone. My best friend has abandoned me. Here comes Barbara. I better not let her see me like this.

BARBARA: (*enters, recognizes NATHAN right away*) Hi, Nathan. I'm on my way to the kitchenware shop for a new cookbook. I just love cooking. But where was I? Oh yes. I saw you and said to myself, "Say 'Hi' to Nathan."

NATHAN: Hi, Barbara.

BARBARA: (*gets close enough to notice how he looks*) You look awful. You look bad. You look terrible. You look like I do when I've tried a new recipe and it fails.

NATHAN: It's a little more serious than that, Barbara.

BARBARA: I can't think of anything

worse than a burned soufflé or a flopped main dish. I know I just want to die when that happens.

NATHAN: A friend left me.

BARBARA: Oh, that. I remember when a cooking instructor left our class right in the middle of the course. It was devastating. We not only didn't finish the class, we didn't even receive a refund. My world came to an end.

NATHAN: My friend's leaving was quite a blow.

BARBARA: You'll be silly if you give it another thought! Put it out of your mind! Go out and buy something for yourself. That's what I do. Besides, it was just one person—what did he matter? You're probably blowing it all out of proportion. I've got to go. I shouldn't have spent so much time with you on such a trivial matter...put a smile on that face. Bye. (*exits*)

NATHAN: Now I feel worse. Barbara thinks I'm upset over something trivial. What else can go wrong?

TROY: (*enters*) Nathan, have you seen Barbara? Somebody wanted to give her a message.

NATHAN: She just left. If you hurry you can catch up with her.

TROY: Thanks. So long.

NATHAN: Troy, do you have a minute? I've had something come up and I'm having a lot of trouble with it...have you ever been hurt by a friend?

TROY: One time and one time only and then I stopped it right there. I never made another friend. You've heard the phrase, "No man is an island"? Baloney! Every man should be an island. Simon and Garfunkel wrote a song called "I Am a Rock." That's my theme song. Don't let anybody get close to you. Don't even care about anyone. Don't make friends. It's the only way to survive.

NATHAN: Really?

TROY: I'm telling you, Nathan, if you ever let anyone get near to you you're asking for problems. Now harden up like a rock. Be like stone and stop this moaning and groaning. I have to catch Barbara before she gets too far. Shape up, do you hear me? (*exits*)

NATHAN: I can't believe it. Now two people agree that I'm overdoing it. Maybe I'm just exaggerating my loss.

SONDRA: (*enters*) Hi, Nathan. It's nice to see you.

NATHAN: Thank you.

SONDRA: Is everything going okay?

NATHAN: I won't go into it. Everything's fine.

SONDRA: If you want to talk about anything...I'm here.

NATHAN: So far everyone I've mentioned it to has been less than supportive. Besides, don't you have to be somewhere?

SONDRA: I can make time. Do you want to give me a chance?

NATHAN: Well, a guy who was like a big brother to me has started acting like he doesn't want to see me any more.

SONDRA: What's given you that idea?

NATHAN: He scratched my car two months ago and never arranged for it to be painted like he promised. He borrowed \$30 over the past weeks and avoids the subject when I mention repaying it. He and I were supposed to watch movies together four different times recently and he's backed out.

SONDRA: Those are a lot of disappointments.

NATHAN: Yes, and now he avoids all my telephone calls and cuts short our conversations in person.

SONDRA: That can hurt.

NATHAN: I know this might sound trite to other people, but he was the kind of friend I could even discuss my

girlfriends with. He took me seriously. He used to tell me about the things that were important to him, too.

SONDRA: I had a friend once who might as well have been a sister. When she moved out of state, I felt really hurt. I missed doing things together like we used to. I even felt betrayed, even though I know it wasn't her fault that she had to leave.

NATHAN: I feel a loss like that.

SONDRA: It's hard to live with the hurt and betrayal you're probably feeling right now. If you're like most people, you won't get over the hurt any time soon. You don't know why your friend has treated you like this. Maybe if you find out one day, it will make a difference, but today your feelings are hurt.

NATHAN: You're the first one who has heard me this morning.

END

LESSON ON LISTENING

<p>Your Favorites</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What do you like most about school? 2. What is your favorite time of year? 3. What is your favorite Bible verse? 	<p>Exposing Weaknesses</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is one of your weaknesses? 2. What is your most annoying habit? 3. What is your greatest spiritual weakness?
<p>The Worst</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What irritates you the most about school? 2. What is your least favorite vegetable? 3. When was the last time you felt depressed and what do you think caused it? 	<p>Revealing Strengths</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is your most positive trait? 2. What is your greatest skill? 3. What is your best spiritual strength?

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