Jesus told many parables. Parables are stories that help us know how we should live. One parable Jesus told was about a man who helped someone in need.
One time a man who knew a lot about the law asked Jesus a question to see if Jesus was very smart.

“Teacher,” he asked, “what do I have to do to live forever?”
Jesus said, “What does the law say? How do you read it?"

The man thought he was good at following that law. He wanted others to know how good he was, so he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”

Jesus told this parable:
The man said, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and love your neighbor as yourself.”

Jesus said, “That is right. Do this and you will live.”

A Jewish man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho when robbers attacked him. They took his clothes and beat him up. He was almost dead, and the robbers left him there.
A priest went down the same road. A priest’s job is to help people live to make God happy. Do you think a priest should stop and help someone who needs help?

A Levite went down the same road. A Levite’s job is also to help people live to make God happy. Do you think a Levite should stop and help someone who needs help?
When the priest saw the man, he passed by on the other side of the road.

When the Levite saw the man, he passed by on the other side of the road.
A Samaritan came down the same road. Samaritans did not get along with Jews. They were not friends. Do you think a Samaritan should stop and help someone who needs help, even if they do not like each other?

The next day, he gave the man in charge of the hotel some money. “Look after him,” he said, “and when I come back, I will pay you for any costs you may have.”
When the Samaritan saw the man, he felt sad for him. He went to the hurt man and helped him. He cleaned the man’s hurt spots and wrapped him up. He put the hurt man on his own donkey. He took the man to a hotel.

After he told the parable, Jesus asked, “Which person do you think was a neighbor to the man who was attacked by robbers?”

The man who knew a lot about the law said, “The one who felt sad for him and helped him.”

Jesus told him, “Go and do the same.”
Jesus wants us to be kind and show compassion. He wants us to help other people, even when they do not look just like us, or when they are not from the same place as us. We can show compassion to anyone who needs it. Think about some different ways you can show compassion. Show compassion to someone today!