

January 9, 2022



The Labor of a Good Neighbor

Luke 10:25-37

²⁵ And behold, a lawyer stood up to put him to the test, saying, **“Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?”** ²⁶ He said to him, “What is written in the Law? How do you read it?” ²⁷ And he answered, “You shall 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 your neighbor as yourself.” ²⁸ And he said to him, “You have answered correctly; do this, and you will live.”

²⁹ But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, **“And who is my neighbor?”** ³⁰ Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him and departed, leaving him half dead. ³¹ Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. ³² So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³ But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion. ³⁴ He went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he set him on his own animal and brought him to an inn and took care of him. ³⁵ And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, ‘Take care of him, and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.’ ³⁶ **Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?”** ³⁷ He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” And Jesus said to him, “You go, and do likewise.”

Discussion Questions:

1. Tell a story of a Good Samaritan experience you will never forget. How did that make an impact in your life?
2. Read Matthew 23:1-3. When we know everything we ought to do and not live it, how does that affect our call to do the Great Commission found in Matthew 28:19-20?
3. Jesus challenges us to ask ourselves whether or not we are good neighbors to those in need. He wants us to demonstrate love for our neighbor in the real world, by showing compassion to one in need, as did the Good Samaritan. How can we be the Priest and the Levite sometimes to our neighbors?
4. Pray for opportunities to be a Good Samaritan to someone this week.

As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. Whoever speaks, let him speak, as it were, the utterances of God; whoever serves, let him do so as by the strength which God supplies; so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

1 Peter 4:10-11