



Neighbor Love

And Other Insights from the
Story of the Good Samaritan

Luke 10:25 - 37

Above all, put on love,
which is the perfect
bond of unity.

Jesus places a high value on loving our neighbor.

There is almost a salvific aspect to loving our neighbor.

- Matthew 25 (to those who are hungry, thirsty, estranged, without clothing, imprisoned)
- Luke 10 (to someone unlike us, in opposition, vulnerable, unclean, different, risky)



The People in this Text: **The expert in the law.**

- Using his intellect to set a trap for Jesus
- Tries to catch Jesus in a mis-speak or challenge him on a technicality.
- Is proving to be annoying as he asks questions that he already knows the answer to.
- Lacks self awareness. Doesn't know when to stop.



How far does my love have to extend?

- How much is it going to cost me?
- How much of my time and resources will I have to give?
- Can I or will I do it?
- Will I be able to love this way?



The People in this text: **Jesus**

- Jesus cares about annoying people.
- Jesus tell the lawyer a story that is relatable.
- The Priest and the Levite have routines, ways of thinking and living that the lawyer knows very well.



The People in this text: The Priest and the Levite

- Each saw the man on the side of the road but chose to pass by on the other side.
- Did they lack the discernment?
- Or did they not want to give up their “cleanliness”?
- **Neighbor Love requires humility.** Sacrifice ego, accept a season of downward mobility. Feel less important. Take the posture of a servant.



The People in this text: The man who fell in the hands of robbers.

- A stranger
- A different ethnicity
- Likely in opposition
- Vulnerable
- Helpless – his life depended on another
- Risky
- A Liability
- Nothing to offer



The People in this text: The Good Samaritan

- An **unexpected** man of compassion – because Jews and Samaritans hated one another.



The person in proximity to you is your neighbor.

Unexpected

Humble

Compassionate

Seeing

Physically engaged

Generous

Aware of Proximity



The Good Samaritan

- He saw the man
- **Seeing** is a choice
- We can get better as seeing others.
- Do you see the people who are in need around you?
- Have you considered your proximity to others in need?
- His Heart is the kind of heart that is accustomed to feeling and expressing compassion.



The Good Samaritan

The Good Samaritan had **compassion**.

Help without judging or blaming, especially when you don't know someone's story.

Jesus can transform our hearts toward compassion.

We can develop our capacity for compassion



The Good Samaritan

- He was **physically engaged**
- He went to the man
- He tended his wounds with oil, wine, and wrapped them.
- He had the man's blood on him.
- There was a physical connection made.
- A great deal of physical strength and energy expended lifting the beaten man onto the animal.
- He was physically present with the man the rest of the day and through the first night.
- This kind of care requires humility on both sides



The Good Samaritan

- He is generous
- He provided the finances needed for the man's recovery.
- He used his personal supplies that he brought with him on his trip
- He made arrangements for the man to be cared for
- In what ways does neighbor love require **generosity**?

