

THE GOOD SAMARITAN

Luke 10:25-37

Awareness

Before listening, reflect:

- What do you think of when you hear the phrase “good Samaritan”? What does it mean to you?
- Can you think of a time when you’ve looked for a loophole in order to justify and get out of doing something? What feelings, attitudes, or realities motivated you?

Ask the average person what a good Samaritan is and you’ll probably get a response about someone who does good deeds. If the person is at all familiar with the Bible he or she might even mention Jesus’ parable. But if we stop there and think the parable is merely about “helping people,” do we miss the heart and purpose of this well known parable? Join us as we read the parable of the Good Samaritan again and study it closely to uncover other convicting truths about God’s love and what it means for us as his people. Discover what Jesus teaches us through this parable about Christlikeness, who God identifies as our neighbors, and how our own salvation challenges us to realign our attitude and perspective toward every person we encounter in our daily lives.

Listen: [The Good Samaritan](#)

Reflection

After listening, consider:

- Who do you usually identify with in the parable of the good Samaritan: the priest, the Levite, the Samaritan, or the man who was mugged? Why? Intentionally imagine yourself as one (or all) of the others. What do you discover about yourself?
- Reflecting on the fact that Jesus’ parable of the Good Samaritan is his answer to the question “Who is my neighbor?,” what do you think it means to BE a neighbor?
- Consider host Scott Hoezee’s observations in segment 2 when he connects the actions of the priest and the Levite to Jesus calling the Pharisees “whitewashed tombs” beautiful on the outside but dead on the inside (Matthew 23:27-28). When have you been like the priest or the Levite? When have you allowed the complications to your schedule or agenda prevent you from stopping to help someone or meeting a need you knew you could otherwise meet? Why does your choice in these situations reflects the condition of your heart?
- What’s your reaction to Scott’s point in segment 2 that we sometimes aren’t even willing to accept help from certain people? Do you agree? Can you provide an example from your own life or one you’ve observed?
- Where in your life is Jesus saying to you “Go and do likewise”? Where is he calling you to “go with God’s flow”? Where is God challenging you and transforming how you see people?

Related Passages

- **Matthew 22:34-40**
- **Romans 5:6-8**

Conclusion

Where do you see the attitudes and mindsets Jesus depicts in the parable of the Good Samaritan in existence today? Talk with someone about the impact of this parable in today's social climate—locally, nationally, and internationally. How can we love people like God loves them when ideologies are different, religions are different, or we believe they are living in sin? What would it look like to be a neighbor to such people just as Jesus was a neighbor?

Write a prayer for God's love to abound and petition him to cause his people's hearts to overflow with his compassion and mercy.

<https://groundworkonline.com/episodes/the-good-samaritan>

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