

# Who is My Neighbor



Emmanuel Evangelical Congregational Church

## Luke 10:25-27

On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" "What is written in the Law?" he replied. "How do you read it?"

He answered, "'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.'"

Read By: Trent Stehr

## Luke 10:25-27

"You have answered correctly," Jesus replied. "Do this and you will live."

But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

In reply Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead.

A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side.

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## Luke 10:25-27

So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side.

But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper.

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## Luke 10:25-27

'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.' "Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?"

The expert in the law replied,

"The one who had mercy on him."

Jesus told him,

"Go and do likewise."

Read By: Trent Stehr

## "an expert in the law..."

The lawyer's "follow-on" question -

## "Who is my neighbor?"

Luke 10:29

Reduce - restrict responsibility to a smaller group

i.e. -

"For whom do I have to be responsible?"

**“Who is my neighbor”?**  
 Genesis 4:9 –  
 Then the Lord said to Cain,  
 “Where is Abel your brother?”  
 He said,  
 “I do not know; am I my brother’s  
 keeper?”  
**“For whom do I have to be responsible?”**

**“Who is my neighbor”?**  
**“For whom do I have to be responsible?”**  
**“Am I my brother's keeper?”**  
**“So then, the law was our tutor  
 until Christ came!”**  
**“Am I my brother's keeper?”**  
 Galatians 3:24

**“Who is my neighbor”?**  
**“For whom do I have to be responsible?”**  
**“Am I my brother's keeper?”**  
 Matthew 22:37-39 –  
 Jesus replied:  
 “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and  
 with all your soul and with all your mind.’  
 This is the first and greatest commandment.  
 And the second is like it:  
 ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’

**“Who is my neighbor”?**  
**“For whom do I have to be responsible?”**  
**“Am I my brother's keeper?”**  
 “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and  
 with all your soul and with all your mind.’  
**Jesus tells us that to love your neighbor...  
 Extremely important!**  
**Second only to loving God!**

Not... who am I “RESPONSIBLE” to help!  
 Not... Who MUST I help!  
 But...  
 Who am I ABLE to help!  
 Who do I “GET TO” help!  
 To whom can I show the love &  
 compassion of God?

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 To whom can I show the love &  
 compassion of God?  
 “As David asked, you may wonder why I did not need to use all  
 Saul’s armor as I did. It was for God’s sake.”  
 God the Father through him.” Galatians 3:17

*“The story of the good Samaritan shows us that a true neighbor has nothing to do with closeness (proximity)...*

*My neighbor is anyone who crosses my path in life. As a disciple, everyone I meet should taste the love of Christ in me, so that He can be glorified through me!” \**

\* Ann Steiner -  
<https://activechristianity.org/the-good-samaritan-love-your-neighbor-luke-1029-37>

*“And seeing the crowds, He felt compassion for them, because they were distressed and downcast, like sheep without a shepherd.”*

*Matthew 9:36*

**Do I have the heart of God for others?**

**Do I have the heart of God for others?**

- What is my attitude towards my “neighbors?”
- Do I simply “live,” and “let live?”
- Do I “see them” as Jesus does?
- Am I “compassionate towards them?”
- Am I intentional in bringing “the fragrance of Christ” into their lives?

**Do I have the heart of God for others?**

- Do you “know” your neighbors?
- In what ways have I been more as the religious people in the story vs the Samaritan?
- How can you be more intentional in bringing Jesus “near” to them?

**Do I have the heart of God for others?**

1. Get to know them.
2. Pray for them by name.
3. Stop and say hello.
4. Serve them - Meet a tangible need.
5. Give a holiday gift.
6. Throw a party in your yard.
7. Host a reception in your home.
8. Invite them to church or small group.
9. Share the Gospel.

**“Love your neighbor as yourself!”** Mark 12:31

**“Do unto others as you would have them do unto you!”** Luke 6:31

*Love suffers long and is kind. Love does not envy, does not parade itself, is not puffed up, does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things, and never fails.*

**1 Corinthians 13:4-8**

# Who IS My Neighbor?



How can we love our neighbor  
if we don't even know them?

Invite your neighbor to your home this summer!

