

Reflecting on “The Good Samaritan”

Luke 10:25-37 | January 21, 2024

DISCUSS

- 1) **Read Luke 10:25-29.** According to these verses, what was the lawyer’s dual motivation in questioning Jesus? Although the lawyer asks Jesus how to inherit eternal life, describe his understanding of justification at the time of his question.

- 2) **Read Luke 10:28.** In this verse, Jesus affirms the lawyer’s recitation of the law and even says, “Do this, and you will live.” How do we know that Jesus is not advocating for salvation by keeping the law?

3) **Read Luke 10:30-33.** Dr. Al Mohler defines the parables of Jesus as, *surprising stories and word pictures drawn from the familiar, that powerfully reveal to us the unfamiliar.* What would Jesus' original audience have found familiar or expected about the parable in these verses? What details would have seemed surprising?

How might those who know you best expect you to act toward an enemy who has been severely injured and/or mistreated?

4) **Read Luke 10:30-35.** Identify some character traits of a good neighbor according to the Samaritan's actions in this parable. What are some ways that you can practice these traits in the days and weeks ahead?

5) **Read Matthew 23:23.** Here Jesus identifies mercy as one example of “weightier matters of the law.” Why do you think believers struggle to show mercy and compassion to others, particularly toward people they don’t like?

6) **Read Luke 10:37.** How is Good Samaritan “neighborliness” different from the type of kindness and tolerance seemingly so valued in our culture today?

7) **Read Luke 10:30-36.** Jesus doesn’t begin this parable with the expected line, “The kingdom of heaven is like....” How does the Good Samaritan reflect the kingdom of God?

8) **Read Luke 10:25-37.** Explain the gospel based on this passage.