

The Good Samaritan

July 3, 2016

I. Introduction

Luke 10:25 On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

John 20:31 But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

- Eternal life is found in Jesus.
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II. Life in Jesus requires love for others.

1 John 4:19-21 We love because he first loved us. Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.

Luke 10:26 “What is written in the Law?” he replied. “How do you read it?”

- Sometimes the best answer is a question.

A. *You must love God.*

Luke 10:27 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.’”

Deuteronomy 6:5 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

B. *You must love your neighbor.*

Leviticus 19:18 “Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against anyone among your people, but love your neighbor as yourself. I am the Lord.

Matthew 22:34-40 Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this

question: “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?” 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.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

C. We express our love for God in a practical way when we love other people.

Matthew 25:40 “The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’”

Matthew 25:45 “He will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.’”

III. A love for God requires a love for others.

Luke 10:28 “You have answered correctly,” Jesus replied. “Do this and you will live.”

- The right answer without a real response is meaningless.

Luke 10:29 But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”

A. We must be careful that biblical knowledge in our head produces love in our heart.

1 Corinthians 8:1-3 Now about food sacrificed to idols: We know that “We all possess knowledge.” But knowledge puffs up while love builds up. Those who think they know something do not yet know as they ought to know. But whoever loves God is known by God.

B. Four Ways Of A Weasel

1. Focus on the perception of others.
2. Avoid any discomfort.
3. Limit personal responsibility.
4. Define the outsider.

C. Jesus was a genius.

Luke 10: 30 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 parable is story about familiar things that helps us understand spiritual truths.

Luke 10:31 A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side.

D. Four Reasons We Do Not Stop And Help

1. It is easier for us to keep going.
2. We are too busy to stop.
3. We are skeptical of the one in need.
4. Our personal values override the value of another person.

E. There is tension between personal desire and the value of another person created in the image of God.

Luke 10:32 So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side.

- We have misunderstood our calling if it becomes an excuse for comfort.

Luke 10:33 But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him.

Leviticus 19:34 The foreigner residing among you must be treated as your native-born. Love them as yourself, for you were foreigners in Egypt. I am the Lord your God.

Matthew 5:43-45 "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.

IV. Jesus does not allow us to define who we can and cannot love.

Luke 10:34-35 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. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.'

A. *Compassion always costs.*

Luke 10:36 "Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?"

Luke 10:36 (ESV) Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?"

John 13:35 By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

James 2:24 You see that a person is considered righteous by what they do and not by faith alone.

B. *Life in Jesus requires love for others.*

Luke 10:37 The expert in the law replied, "The one who had mercy on him." Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise."

- We do not love others because of who they are or what they have done.
- We love others because they are created in the image of God.
- *We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.* The Declaration of Independence
- Be the neighbor.