

Quail Neighborhood Men's Bible Study
Session 6

The Good Samaritan

Luke 10:25-37 (NRSV)

Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" He answered, "You shall 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 your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."

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

Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side.

But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.'

Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

If you were this lawyer, how would you feel about the conversation with Jesus in the first paragraph above? _____

What kind of answer do you think this lawyer was expecting when he asked, "Who is my neighbor?" _____

If you were this lawyer, what thoughts and feelings might you have about the story Jesus told? _____

Considering the story Jesus told, how is today's world like it was then? How is it different? _____

Why do you think Jesus made a hated Samaritan the hero of the story? _____

Describe the Samaritan's actions in terms of his (a) personal inconvenience, (b) financial cost, and (3) risk. How do these factors affect your neighborly actions? _____

In the question He asked after the story, Jesus was not saying that Samaritans are better neighbors than Jews. What was He saying? _____

When He says, "Go and do likewise," what is Jesus telling the lawyer to do? _____

Has a "Good Samaritan" ever given you a helping hand when you needed it? How do you feel about that? _____

What does "Go and do likewise" mean in practical terms for us today? _____

Prayer: Father, thank you for sending a neighbor, or an angel, or the Holy Spirit alongside to help us whenever we are in trouble. Help me to be a better neighbor to those around me who could use a helping hand.