

GOD SPEAKS

THE PARABLE OF THE GOOD SAMARITAN TEACHES US THAT LOVE FOR GOD IS DEMONSTRATED BY OUR LOVE FOR OTHERS – ESPECIALLY OUR ENEMIES.

1. THE _____ FOR THE PARABLE

²⁵ And behold, a certain [a]lawyer stood up and tested Him, saying, “Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?”

²⁶ He said to him, “What is written in the law? What is your reading of it?”

²⁷ So he answered and said, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind,’ and ‘your neighbor as yourself.’”

²⁸ And He said to him, “You have answered rightly; do this and you will live.”

²⁹ But he, wanting to justify himself, said to Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”
Luke 10:25-29

2. THE _____ OF THE PARABLE

³⁰ Then Jesus answered and said: “A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among [b]thieves, who stripped him of his clothing, wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead.

³¹ Now by chance a certain priest came down that road. And when he saw him, he passed by on the other side.

³² Likewise a Levite, when he arrived at the place, came and looked, and passed by on the other side.

³³ But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was. And when he saw him, he had compassion.

³⁴ So he went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; and he set him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him.

³⁵ On the next day, [c]when he departed, he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said to him, ‘Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I come again, I will repay you.’ Luke: 10:30-35

3. THE _____ FROM THE PARABLE

³⁶ So which of these three do you think was neighbor to him who fell among the thieves?”

³⁷ And he said, “He who showed mercy on him.” Then Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.” Luke 10:36-37

GOD INVITES

Jesus really wanted the lawyer – and us – to see that we are not able to keep this law. We are not capable of loving our neighbor, and especially if we are to love our enemies, as we love ourselves.

But Jesus is like the Good Samaritan. He has come and rescued us in our wounded, sinful state. He has demonstrated supreme love in caring for us when we desperately needed help. As David Gooding says, “We were not his neighbors nor he ours. But he chose by incarnation to come where we were; and in spite of the fact that human beings hounded him to a cross, he rescued us at his own expense. And has paid in advance the cost of completing our redemption and of perfecting us for unimaginable glory.”

Now, Jesus says to us, “You go, and do likewise.” If we have received mercy from Christ, we are to go and demonstrate mercy to others as a demonstration of our love for God. Let us attend to the needs that God brings across our paths. Let us be merciful to others, even as we have received mercy from Christ.

Amen.

GOD ENCOURAGES

Ezra 10:1-12

**Ezra: Faith and Action Preacher
Unifying Principle:
Confession and Correction**

