

THE GOOD SAMARITAN: “WHO IS OUR NEIGHBOR?”

Luke 10.25-37

What is ‘Evangelism’?

Evangelism is teaching (heralding, proclaiming, preaching) the Gospel (the message from God that leads us to salvation) with the aim (hope, desire, goal) to persuade (convince, convert). -J. Mack Stiles (9 Marks)

As followers of Jesus, our practical call is ‘do good works, build goodwill, and share the good news’.

Luke 10: 25-29

A self-justifying heart will always look for boundaries and loopholes, but a Gospel-transformed heart will look for opportunities. Loving our neighbor is not a moral suggestion; it’s a missional command.

What the lawyer really means is, “What is the minimum requirement for me to enter into the kingdom and to obtain righteousness?”

Luke 10:30-35

The Priest and the Levite, though religiously trained and ethically connected, avoided the wounded man. Their response reveals the irony that their **knowledge of the Law did not translate into compassion**, even though the Law itself commanded mercy (Lev. 19:34). Their religious schedule triumphed over their God-given purpose.

Despite racial hostility and personal danger in this parable, the Samaritan (apparent enemy of the Jews) shows mercy: **He provides friendship, advocacy, medical aid, transportation, financial support, and follow-up care.**

Jesus intentionally uses the Samaritan to embody godly compassion towards others. A follower of Christ is not identified by a label, social rank, or religious position, but by the love they display toward others.

10 simple ways to love your neighbor:

1. Learn names – Know & greet your neighbors by name
2. Be present – Sit on your porch, walk your street, slow down
3. Open your home – Host a meal, movie night, or holiday gathering
4. Serve practically – Shovel snow, mow a lawn, fix something
5. Use holidays or major events strategically – Pick 2-3 to bless others with intentionality
6. Join shared-interest spaces – Local causes, community events
7. Volunteer with others – Don’t go alone, bring a friend
8. Start small – Block party, cookout, birthday card list, give a gift, bake some bread
9. Break the silence – Ask questions, listen well, offer to pray
10. Point to Jesus – Let your good deeds prepare the way for the gospel

Key Point: Evangelism is not just a task to perform, but a natural overflow of a heart transformed by God's mercy.

Small Group Application Questions:

Where God has placed us, who are our neighbors, and how can we serve them?

What needs exist in our community that have yet to be met?

Who can we talk to in our community to learn more about how we can help?

Can we partner with anyone who's already meeting this need?

How can we connect our actions to the Gospel?

International Missions



Local Outreach

