

**AGAPE HOUSE OF WORSHIP
WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY**

**Bible Study Series: Speaking in Parables
Lesson 9: The Parable of the Good Samaritan**

**Wednesday, April 5th, 2023.
Facilitator: Tayo Ayodeji**

Luke 10:25-37

Introduction:

The Parable of the Good Samaritan was the result of a question directed to Jesus by a religious scholar, an expert in the law (Mosaic law). The lawyer asked Jesus a questions and Jesus responded by answering a question with a question. The conversation quickly evolves into “who is my neighbor?”. Jesus had answered the original question, but the man wanted to justify himself, in other words, he was looking for a loophole to exploit. He wanted to test Jesus!

v. 25 - “Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

Questions:

- a. What was the lawyer’s intent to the original question?
- b. Why did Jesus take the path of loving your neighbor and not focus salvation?

The Parable of the Good Samaritan is about how we should love our neighbors as ourselves, have compassion for one another and show kindness.” The Jews hated and despised the Samaritans. Jesus intentionally used a Samaritan in His conversation with the lawyer to demonstrate His definition of who is our neighbor and how we should love our neighbor.

- c. Can anyone tell us more about the tension between the Jews and the Samaritans?

v. 29 - “And who is my neighbor?”

Definition of neighbor in Greek – “someone who is near”

Definition of neighbor in Hebrew – “someone that you have an association with”

Question:

- a. Why did the lawyer ask Jesus who is my neighbor? Was he asking the question out of curiosity, arrogance, or something else?

Romans 12:10 - Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.

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John 13:34-5 - A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples if you love one another.

The Priest, the Levite and the Good Samaritan

Perhaps, we feel sad to see a priest behave this way because a person with the title “priest” is held in high regards and more is expected from the priest, however, a priest by definition is not necessarily a godly person. The Levite who should have been friendly to the injured Jewish man passed him by without blinking, and the least expected person, the Samaritan stopped and showed the kind of love and kindness that Jesus Christ expect from us.

Questions:

- a. What is the difference between kindness and compassion?
- b. Does compassion have boundaries?
- c. Do you think the attitude of the priest or Levite would have been different if there was some benefit in it for them?
 - a. **Jeremiah 17:10** - I the Lord search the heart and examine the mind, to reward each person according to their conduct, according to what their deeds deserve.
- d. Have you been in a situation whereby your kindness was truly tested?

v. 34 - 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.

- a. What is the significance of the oil and the wine?
- b. What stands out about the character of the Good Samaritan? Notice that the Good Samaritan went out of his way and dropped off the injured man to an inn then went above and beyond to pay the inn keeper for all expenses on behalf of a stranger.

Wrap-up

Kindness is not always about the big things, the tangible stuff, or the stuff that we can see and touch. Our kindness should be extended to everyone regardless of familiarity, association, or class.

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.’”