

Luke 10:25-37

Spontaneous Mission

Outline for Congregation

*The gospel transforms how we view ourselves and this produces the instinct to reach out towards others in service.*

Driven By Compassion

- Contrast of knowing what to do and being willing to do it (v28)
- Compassion (“to suffer with”) leads you to love your neighbor “as yourself” (v27)
- “who is my neighbor?” (v29) rephrased: who proved to be a neighbor? (v36)
- who do you identify with in the story?

Recognizing Opportunities

- “go, and do likewise” (v37)
- the costliness of service in perspective – a compassionate heart welcomes interruptions

Questions for reflection

1. When a need arises that you can address, how do you weigh whether or not to help? What criteria leads you to say “no”? When you do help others, under what circumstances are you glad you helped, and what type of grumbling or complaining follows after you have helped someone?
2. A Christian should be able to identify with the man who was robbed on the way to Jericho – in our time of needed, Jesus saved us. In what ways should this lead to greater compassion towards others?
3. As an assignment: take note of times in the next 2 weeks when interruptions come because someone needs help and the choice to help them is costly for you. Reflect on the situation – take note of how you felt, what the key factors influencing whatever you decided to do was, whether or not you think you made the right choice, and how you might do things differently if you had the chance to do it again. Pray that God would help you grow in compassion and the ability to recognize when He is calling you to serve others, and that He would give you what is needed to face the challenges of reaching out in service to others.