

SIX-FOLD TEST FOR MULTIETHNIC MINISTRY

SERMON SERIES: POPULATION | PARTICIPATION | POWER | PACE-SETTING | PURPOSEFUL NARRATIVE | PRACTICING SOLIDARITY

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Practicing Solidarity

#6. In what ways are we standing with and advocating for the multiethnic mosaic? How are we sharing in the suffering of others on both an individual and communal level?

Luke 10:25-37, NIV

On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

“What is written in the Law?” he replied. “How do you read it?”

He answered, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind’[c]; and, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself:[d]”

“You have answered correctly,” Jesus replied. “Do this and you will live.”

But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”

In reply Jesus said: “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. 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. The next day he took out two denarii[e] and gave them to the innkeeper. ‘Look after him,’ he said, ‘and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.’

“Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?”

The expert in the law replied, “The one who had mercy on him.”

Jesus told him, “Go and do likewise.”

Verse 25

- Law interpreter stood up to test Jesus.
- This tells me he was prideful.
- An expert of the law, wanting to know how to enter inherit eternal life?

Verses 26-29

- Close attention—God want us to love each other (love our neighbor)
- Story that impacted me as a child. Story about what it meant to love a neighbor.

Verse 29

- Expert of religious law was looking to justifying his actions.
- Question: Who is my neighbor?
- Parable of the Good Samaritan

Verse 30

- A man attacked by bandits
- This man was attacked, stripped of his clothing, beaten, and left almost dead.
- We can only imagine to the degree in which this man was beaten. He was left unconscious on the ground.



Verse 31—The Priest

- I see you; however, you will be inconvenient.
- You will interrupt my plans.
- If I touch you, I might become unclean.
- He can see the man lying there but decides to not to help and crosses to the other side.

Verse 32—The Levite (Temple assistant)

- The Levite also sees the man lying there, yet decides to ignore him and goes on his way.
- Two great religious men make the choice to ignore him.
- They did not show compassion.

Verse 33

- But a Samaritan
- He saw the man lying on the floor and he understood the man needed help.
- He had compassion toward this man (mercy).

Definition of compassion: “Sympathetic pity and concern for the sufferings or misfortunes of others.”

- This Samaritan had courage.
- This Samaritan had compassion.

What a great feeling to have someone see our need and walk with us through it.

A challenge for us to walk with those in need. Having eyes to see and an open heart to those around us facing needs.

Verse 34

- The Samaritan did not see this man lying there with eyes of judgment.
- The Samaritan bandaged his wounds.
- The Samaritan healed the wounds with olive oil.

CHURCH, HOW DO WE TREAT THOSE AROUND US WITH NEEDS?

We expect a quick sanctification process, and we forget the ongoing justification.

I will share of my testimony...

Verse 35

- The good Samaritan treated this man with humility.
- He did not cast judgment over this man.
- The Samaritan took of their time.
- The Samaritan was courageous.
- The Samaritan gave of his resources.

Verse 36

- “The following day” —compassion has a cost.
- The Samaritan watched over him at night.

Let us walk with others in the midst of their pain.

Verse 37

God invites us as his children to do the same as this Samaritan.

- Love our neighbor.
- Have the courage to love.
- Give of our time and allow to be interrupted.
- See with eyes of compassion.