

The Good Samaritan

Scripture Reading: Luke 10:25-37

What is written in the law? How do you read it? – Luke 10:26

Previously, in this series, it was stated that we need to observe how Christ ministered the Word. Then use the Word to release Him into the mind and heart of others. We need to expose people to an environment of Scriptural thought in which Jesus can speak to them as He did here on earth. In **Luke 10:25-37** we have an example of a person, who handled God's law on a regular basis, who tried to tangle Jesus in His words. The way Jesus handled this lawyer can help us to handle the questions of others, or to help someone begin the process of Biblical thinking.

Answering Questions with Questions and Stories – Luke 10:25-37

- Ask a person if they know what the Bible has to say on a certain subject. (Luke 10:25-26)
- Ask them what they think it means. Help them to draw the right conclusions. (Luke 10:26)
- Show them the ideal standard that God has set. (Luke 10:26-28)
- If they are not understanding or not receiving the right conclusions, try illustrating the point with a story or object lesson. Here, Jesus told the story of the Good Samaritan. (Luke 10:29-35)
- Again, help them draw the right conclusion. (Luke 10:36)
- Encourage them to make the right decisions and actions. (Luke 10:37)

Conclusions:

- We need to have a correct understanding of the words of Scripture in their context.
- We need to be able to guide people into the Scriptures (The whole counsel of God – Acts 20:26-27 cp. Luke 24:44-47).
- We need to use the law to bring people to Christ. If they are ready, show them their need of mercy and grace through Christ (Galatians 3:22-24; Romans 3:19-24; 7:7-13).
- We need to help people to know what God has said and what He means by what He said.
- We need to be thinking ahead of those whom we are trying to reach.

- We need to be prepared for resistance, ignorance, and the effect of incorrect teaching.
- We need to be familiar with the stories, parables, and other illustrations that the Bible uses. You can use other kinds of illustrations after you are sure that they are within the guidelines of Scripture.
- We need to call people to decision and action.

The Good Samaritan is a great example of what Jesus did for us.

- Religion (priest and Levite) overlooks our need. Keeping up appearances and maintaining the status quo causes people to look the other way. They do not get involved with people and their problems.
- Samaritans were of low esteem to the Jewish people. So we see an outcast who showed compassion and gave of himself to help the dying man.
- Jesus came to us and rescued us from our awful condition.
- Jesus is the One whom the world rejects and avoids.
- Jesus did not just help superficially. He followed through and paid the price needed to restore us.
- We need to follow Jesus. We need to *“go and do likewise.”* We need to go, with Jesus’ guidance and empowerment, seeking others who need to be rescued from sin. We need to go in Jesus’ name.