

"For this is God's will, your sanctification."
(1 Thessalonians 4:3; CSB)

A <u>parable</u> is a fictional story that reveals truth. It is a story that invites you to <u>participate</u> in the adventure.

# Luke 10:25-26 (CSB)

25 Then an expert in the law stood up to test him, saying, "Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" 26 "What is written in the law?" he asked him. "How do you read it?"

## Luke 10:25-26 (CSB)

27 He answered, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind," and "your neighbor as yourself."

### Luke 10:28 (CSB)

28 "You've answered correctly," he told him. "Do this and you will live."

With all that you are, love <u>God</u>, love <u>people</u>, and love <u>yourself</u> (in that order).

# Luke 10:29 (CSB)

29 But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

# Luke 10:30 (CSB)

30 Jesus took up the question and said, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of robbers. They stripped him, beat him up, and fled, leaving him half dead.

## Luke 10:31 (CSB)

31 A priest happened to be going down that road. When he saw him, he passed by on the other side.

#### Luke 10:32 (CSB)

32 In the same way, a Levite, when he arrived at the place and saw him, passed by on the other side

#### Luke 10:33 (CSB)

33 But a Samaritan on his journey came up to him, and when he saw the man, he...

#### Luke 10:33-34 (CSB)

33 But a Samaritan on his journey came up to him, and when he saw the man, he had compassion. 34 He went over to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on olive oil and wine. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him.

#### Luke 10:35 (CSB)

35 The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, "Take care of him. When I come back I'll reimburse you for whatever extra you spend."

"Good Samaritan" is like saying "good Neo-Nazi" or "kindhearted sexual predator." It's shocking and scandalous to Jesus' hearers.

# Luke 10:36-37 (CSB)

36 "Which of these three do you think proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" 37 "The one who showed mercy to him," he said. Then Jesus told him, "Go and do the same."

Mercy is something <u>God</u> shows us. It's radical <u>kindness</u>, gracious <u>favor</u> shown to an enemy, the <u>costly</u> demonstration of unexpected love.

Our neighbor is anyone in our path who is in <u>need</u> regardless of their language, religion, political party, immigration status, or ethnicity.

# To whom is God is calling you to be a neighbor?

# We are the person in the ditch; <u>Jesus</u> is the Good Samaritan.