

WINTER QUARTER SUNDAY SCHOOL 2014-2015

THEME: COME LET US ADORE CHRIST THE KING IN WORSHIP, PRAYER, AND STEWARDSHIP

Unit III – STEWARDSHIP FOR LIFE

“THE STEWARDSHIP OF SERVING OTHERS THROUGH GODLY COMPASSION”



Sunday School Lesson No. X

February 8, 2015

Presented by Rev. Frank A. Davis, III

LESSON TEXT: Luke 10:25-37

REQUIRED READING: Luke 10:25-37

MOTTO TEXTS: Luke 10:27, “*And he answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself.*”

Luke 10:36-37, “*Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbour unto him that fell among the thieves? And he said, He that shewed mercy on him. Then said Jesus unto him, Go, and do thou likewise.*”

Reliable Resources: Union Gospel Press Expositor and Illuminator; Standard Lesson Commentary; Libronix Electronic Library; The Outline Bible; Word Search 10

INTRODUCTION

The parable of the Good Samaritan has long been a favorite of Christians adult and children as well as benevolent causes and organizations for centuries. It strikes right at the heart of putting love into action or simply, the practice of compassion. To review it is a timeless blessing; the undertaking of which I truly enjoy. The last time we visited this text was the Sunday before Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf coast in 2005. Who would have known how many people would practice the work of the Good Samaritan that year! Let us read and review this divine masterpiece of parabolic reference and find our place in the practice of biblical stewardship.

Anticipating PowerPoints:

- **Compassionate Stewardship's Setting. Luke 10:25-29**
- **Compassionate Stewardship's Story. Luke 10:30-35**
- **Compassionate Stewardship's Solution. Luke 10:36-37**

OUTLINE

I. Compassionate Stewardship's Setting. Luke 10:25-29

As Jesus Christ sat and gave wondrous teachings concerning the Kingdom of God, several individuals marveled at His teachings. Among them rose “an expert in the Mosaic Law” commonly called a lawyer. He was most efficient in Old Testament knowledge as well as in the philosophies of the Mosaic declaration. As the people listened intently to Jesus, He was interrupted by the lawyer who from the outset, had a seemingly sincere question. But Jesus, knowing his heart, responded with wisdom, discerning the deception of his question.

Jesus responded to the lawyer with His own questions. In verse 26, “*He said unto him, What is written in the law? How readest thou?*” In verses 27-28, the lawyer responds with splendid pride recalling from the Mosaic Law Deuteronomy 6:5, “*And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might*” and Leviticus 19:18, “*Thou shalt not avenge, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy people, but thou shalt love thy neighbor as*

thymself: I am the LORD.” Now Jesus baffled the lawyer by responding to him that his answer was correct. If a man could truly demonstrate these things, he would have this eternal life, but no one is able to accomplish such apart from faith in CHRIST’S grace. Such faith in the Lord is demonstrated by the love one has for God and for one’s neighbor. I John 3:14 tells us, *“We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death.”*

Now the lawyer is upstaged by Jesus’ clear cut presentation of divine truth; he being a good Jew surely declared his love for Jehovah. But he sought to justify his prejudice against those who were not Jewish by asking Jesus, *“Who is my neighbor?”* Beloved, it is from this question that Jesus defines this kind of stewardship of compassion through the parable of the Good Samaritan.

II. Compassionate Stewardship's Story. Luke 10:30-35

The road from Jerusalem to Jericho was a very dangerous route. It was filled with highwaymen, thieves, and marauders. Jesus declared that a certain man fell under the evil hands of the robbers who mugged him, stole his clothes and almost took his life!

A. A Pious Priest. vs. 31

According to Jesus the priest passed by chance, but this was great hyperbole. Why? Because the priests resided in Jericho and frequently traveled that way up and down the road, serving the Temple, according to the courses set up by David centuries before. Surely, if anyone would illustrate and demonstrate Godly compassion, it would be the Priest. But he was more concerned about his ceremonial holiness than the showing of Godly compassion to one who had fallen into near ruin! Jesus furthered the discussion by including a Levite.

B. A Loyal Levite. vs. 32

This man was not of the order of Aaron the brother of Moses, but was still of a priestly order of whom much could be expected. He served at the Temple assisting the priests. He also had many custodial duties, but he could not find compassion in his heart to reach out and touch the man who had fallen among thieves. Remember that Jesus is answering the lawyer’s question: *“Who is my neighbor?”* while making a definite point of how one demonstrates true compassion. Finally, Jesus brings the mystery character into the equation.

C. The Good Samaritan. vs. 33-35

From the Master’s lips falls the character of the Good Samaritan. He is given no name, but he demonstrates a ton of love in action. Jesus’ story declares that this Samaritan who, like all Samaritans, were considered inferior to Jews because of their history. But he became a neighbor to the man who had fallen among the thieves. He demonstrated what compassion is really all about:

1. He went over to the helpless man. vs. 34
2. He ministered to his pressing needs. vs. 34
3. He used his own time, talents and resources to assist the fallen. vs. 34
4. He enlisted the aid of someone else when he had reached his personal limitation. vs. 35
5. Finally, he secured the final needs of the fallen man with his own reputation. vs. 35

III. Compassionate Stewardship’s Solution. Luke 10:36-37

Jesus now calls for the lawyer to admit the biblical solution to the question concerning compassion. Jesus asked, *“Of the three, who was neighbor to the man who fell among thieves?”* After hearing the whispering subdued answer of the lawyer, *“He that shewed mercy on him.”* Jesus gives the eternal challenge to us all: *“Go, and do thou likewise.”* Hence there can be no doubt as to the stewardship solution that is expected of us all!

CLOSING

The Stewardship of Compassion is the responsibility of every child of God. It does not matter the color of one’s skin, nor the place on the ladder on which one stands in society. Jesus expects us who are the blood-washed, to seek and serve those who are a part of what the late Rev. Lester Roloff would call, “The poor, pitiful, passing parade of the perishing.” Now let us *“Go and do thou likewise.”*

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Radio Broadcast: WABL AM (Amite City), Saturday, 3:00 p.m.

TV Telecast: WHNO TV-Channel 20, Sunday, 6:30 a.m.

Looking Ahead: February 15, 2015 Matthew 25:31-46

You are invited to attend Noon Bible Study every Wednesday as Pastor Davis teaches the lesson at Bibleway.