

Serving the Community

The Good Samaritan

Points to Consider

1. The Story
2. Examples
3. So What?

The Story

Luke 10:25 *And behold, a certain lawyer stood up and tested Him, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?"* NKJV

An **expert** in the law stood up and **challenged** Jesus with an **important** question concerning **eternal** life.

Matt 16:1 *Then the Pharisees and Sadducees came, and testing Him asked that He would show them a **sign** from heaven.* NKJV

Matt 19:3 *The Pharisees also came to Him, testing Him, and saying to Him, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for just **any** reason?"* NKJV

Matt 22:15-17 *Then the Pharisees went and **plotted** how they might **entangle** Him in His talk. 16 And they sent to Him their disciples with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that You are true, and teach the way of God in truth; nor do You care about anyone, for You do not regard the person of men. 17 Tell us, therefore, what do You think? Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?"* NKJV

Matt 22:25-28 *Now there were with us seven brothers. The first died after he had married, and having no offspring, left his wife to his brother. 26 Likewise the second also, and the third, even to the seventh. 27 Last of all the woman died also. 28 Therefore, in the resurrection, whose wife of the seven will she be? For they all had her."* NKJV

John 8:6 *This they said, testing Him, that they might have something of which to **accuse** Him. But Jesus stooped down and wrote on the ground with His finger, as though He did not hear.* NKJV

People testing Jesus was commonplace.

Luke 10:26-28 *He said to him, "What is written in the law? What is your reading of it?" 27 So he answered and said, "'You shall 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.'" 28 And He said to him, "You have answered rightly; do this and you will live."* NKJV

They have an exchange and ended up **agreeing** on what a person needed to do to inherit eternal life. The problem was that this man was not looking for agreement, he was looking for an **argument**.

Luke 10:29 *But he, wanting to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" NKJV*

Luke 10:30-37 *Then Jesus answered and said: "A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, who stripped him of his clothing, wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead. 31 Now by chance a certain priest came down that road. And when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. 32 Likewise a Levite, when he arrived at the place, came and looked, and passed by on the other side. 33 But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was. And when he saw him, he had compassion. 34 So he went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; and he set him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. 35 On the next day, when he departed, he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said to him, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I come again, I will repay you.' 36 So which of these three do you think was neighbor to him who fell among the thieves?" 37 And he said, "He who showed mercy on him." Then Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise." NKJV*

The priest **saw** the injured man and didn't help.

The Levite **looked** at the injured man and didn't help.

The Samaritan saw the injured man and had **compassion** on him.

Matt 7:7-12 *"Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. 8 For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. 9 Or what man is there among you who, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? 10 Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent? 11 If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him! 12 Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets. NKJV*

Jesus put the second greatest commandment in terms of actions not feelings.

Love is proven in our actions. Fulfilling the second great commandment is evident by what we do for others.

1 Cor 13:1-13 *Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. 2 And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. 3 And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing. 4 Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; 5 does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; 6 does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; 7 bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. 8 Love never fails. But whether there are prophecies, they will fail; whether there are tongues, they will cease; whether there is knowledge, it will vanish away. 9 For we know in part and we prophesy in part. 10 But when that which is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away. 11 When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things. 12 For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known. 13 And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love. NKJV*

Doing the right things are not enough to please God. We must do the right things with the right **motivation**.

Examples

Gen 18:1-8 *Then the Lord appeared to him by the terebinth trees of Mamre, as he was sitting in the tent door in the heat of the day. 2 So he lifted his eyes and looked, and behold, three men were standing by him; and when he saw them, he ran from the tent door to meet them, and bowed himself to the ground, 3 and said, "My Lord, if I have now found favor in Your sight, do not pass on by Your servant. 4 Please let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. 5 And I will bring a morsel of bread, that you may refresh your hearts. After that you may pass by, inasmuch as you have come to your servant." They said, "Do as you have said." 6 So Abraham hurried into the tent to Sarah and said, "Quickly, make ready three measures of fine meal; knead it and make cakes." 7 And Abraham ran to the herd, took a tender and good calf, gave it to a young man, and he hastened to prepare it. 8 So he took butter and milk and the calf which he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree as they ate. NKJV*

Abraham gave the **best** to people he didn't even know.

Gen 19:1-3 *Now the two angels came to Sodom in the evening, and Lot was sitting in the gate of Sodom. When Lot saw them, he rose to meet them, and he bowed himself with his face toward the ground. 2 And he said, "Here now, my lords, please turn in to your servant's house and spend the night, and wash your feet; then you may rise early and go on your way." And they said, "No, but we will spend the night in the open square." 3 But he insisted strongly; so they turned in to him and entered his house. Then he made them a feast, and baked unleavened bread, and they ate. NKJV*

Lot fulfilled the second greatest commandment by **servicing** strangers.

So What?

1. When was the last time you gave money to or helped a stranger in any way?
2. What is your attitude when you do give money to others? Do you give to get rid of the one needing help or to build a relationship with them?
3. When you give money to someone, do you follow up on future needs?