



# The Good Samaritan

## Luke 10:30-37

Please read the story of the Good Samaritan as told in Luke 10:30-37.

Why do you think that the priest and the Levite walked past the injured man without offering any help?

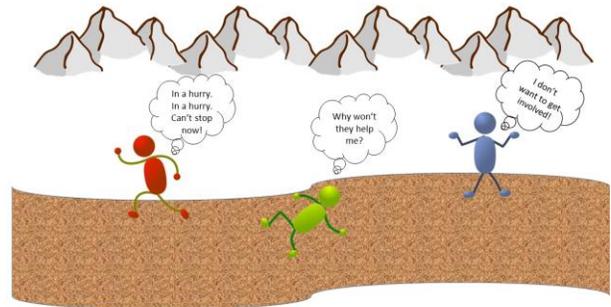
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Many people have tried to give the priest and the Levite the benefit of the doubt. They point to the fact that both men would have been strictly forbidden from touching a dead body. Perhaps they clung to their religious sanctification so tightly that their mercy couldn't get through. Let's make that personal. Is there an unpleasant act of compassion you are aware of and yet you hide behind your obligations and commitment? If so what and why do you think you do? If not, could there possibly some act of charity or compassion that you don't 'see'? Is there an area you could help the less fortunate in?

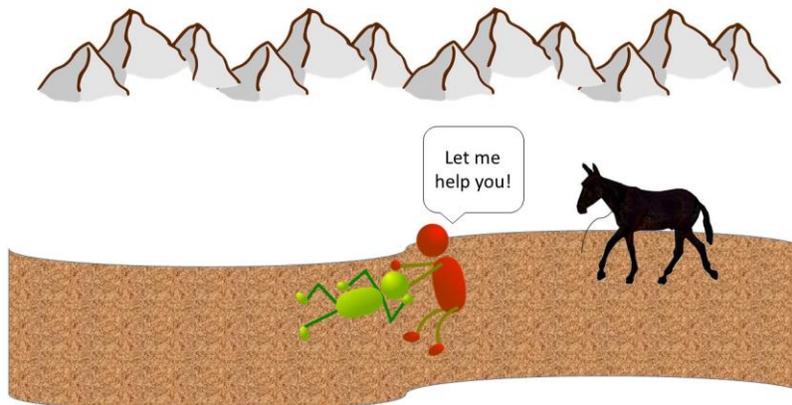
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What motivated the Samaritan man to help the injured Israelite? (verse 33) \_\_\_\_\_

Notice that the Samaritan used the things he had to help the injured man. He didn't leave him and go get help. He didn't run to the store to get the necessary supplies. God had already prepared him (though the Samaritan man did not know it) for the act of mercy he would be called to do. We can apply this to our own lives rather easily.

What are some of the resources that you have readily available to you? (For instance: Do you have lots of lumber laying around from a project? Do you have tons of fabric or baking supplies? Things like that.)

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What skills do you have? (Obviously, the Samaritan not only had the supplies to bandage the wounded man, but he also had the knowledge of how to use them properly.)

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And finally, what type of instances or even groups of people move you to pity or compassion? (Do you have a fondness for little children or the elderly, veterans or the homeless. Perhaps you have a soft spot for people with disabilities or the underprivileged.)

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Like the Good Samaritan, God has placed us right where he desires to use us. He has given us the tools and resources to spread his compassion to the world. All we have to do is open our eyes to the needs all around us. It doesn't have to be a big work. Every act of compassion changes someone's world for the better!

# Called To Follow God's Example!

A big part of who God is involves mercy!!

Please read Ephesians 4:32

What are we called to do?

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How can remembering all the things God saved us from and forgave us for lead us to having more compassion, kindness and forgiveness towards others?

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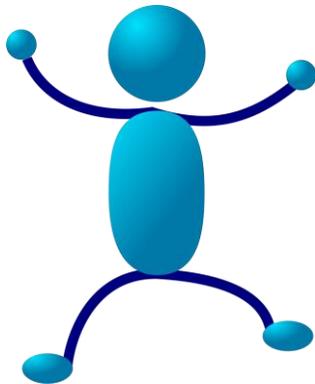
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"Mercy comes down from Heaven to Earth so that man by practicing it resembles God."



Giambattista Giralda

"Mercy imitates God and disappoints Satan!"



St. John Chrysostom

Please read Galations 5:22-23

Fruits of the Spirit are those traits that we find evidenced in and through our lives when we are filled with God's Holy Spirit. Please list these qualities.

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How do you think that your relationships with others would change if you purposefully acted upon these 'fruits'?

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# Characteristics of someone who lives in mercy:

