

# The Greatest Ingredient in Building Bridges –



Lu. 10:25-37

*“Building Bridges with the Neighbors”*



Lu. 10:25 And, behold, a certain lawyer stood up, and tempted him, saying, Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?

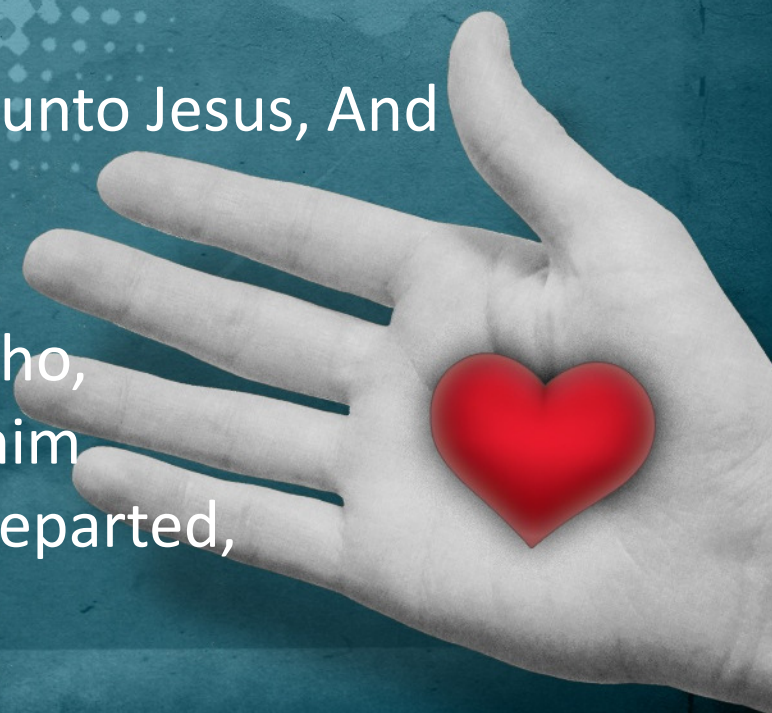
26 He said unto him, What is written in the law? how readest thou?

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.

28 And he said unto him, Thou hast answered right: this do, and thou shalt live.

29 But he, willing to justify himself, said unto Jesus, And who is my neighbour?

30 And Jesus answering said, A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead.





31 And by chance there came down a certain priest that way: and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side.

32 And likewise a Levite, when he was at the place, came and looked on him, and passed by on the other side.

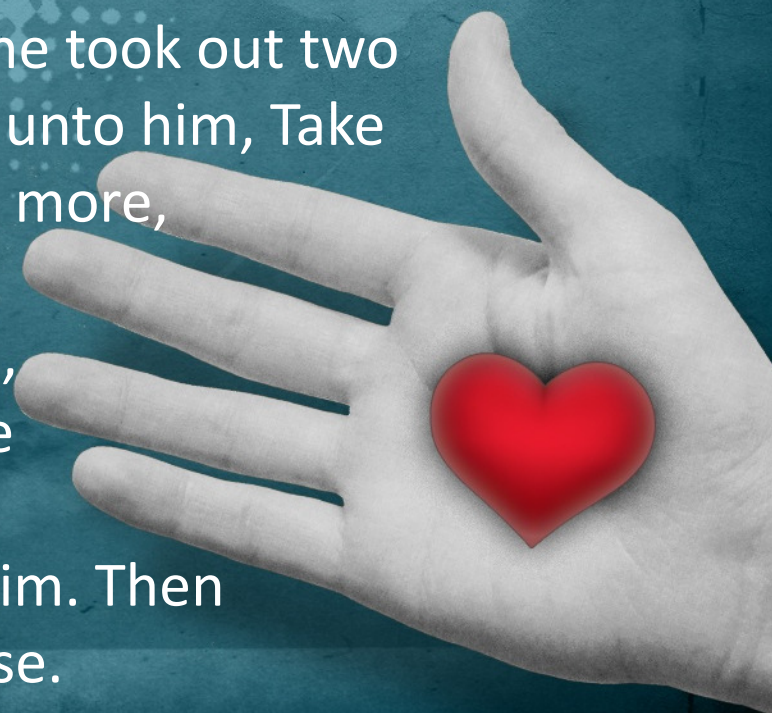
33 But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him,

34 And went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him.

35 And on the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave them to the host, and said unto him, Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee.

36 Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbour unto him that fell among the thieves?

37 And he said, He that shewed mercy on him. Then said Jesus unto him, Go, and do thou likewise.





Our theme this year is *Building Bridges*, and this morning we will continue looking at the topic that we will cover for a few more weeks:

The Greatest Ingredient in Building Bridges – LOVE

The main ingredient in building a relationship with Christ = LOVE.

The main ingredient in building a marital relationship = LOVE.

The main ingredient in building a parent/child relationship = LOVE.

The main ingredient in building a loyal friendship = LOVE.

For us to be “building bridges” with anyone,  
our foundation must be built upon LOVE.





Mt. 19:19 Honour thy father and thy mother: and, Thou shalt **love thy neighbour as thyself.**

Mt. 22:39 And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt **love thy neighbour as thyself.**

Mk. 12:31 And the second is like, namely this, **Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.**

Lu. 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.**





Rom. 13:9 For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not covet; and **if there be any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.**

10 **Love worketh no ill to his neighbour:** therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

Gal. 5:14 For **all the law is fulfilled in one word**, even in this; **Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.**

Jas. 2:8 **If ye fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well:**





## I. THE PROUD CONFRONTATION, 10:25-29

Lu. 10:25 And, behold, a certain lawyer stood up, and tempted him, saying, Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?

26 He said unto him, What is written in the law? how readest thou?

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.

28 And he said unto him, Thou hast answered right: this do, and thou shalt live.

29 But he, willing to justify himself, said unto Jesus, And who is my neighbour?





## A. The Lawyer's Question, 10:25

1. He had credentials, "...lawyer..."
2. He was conniving, "...tempted him..."

**Original Word:** ἐκπειράζω

**Transliteration:** ekpeirazó

**Definition:** I put to the test, make trial of, tempt, try.

**Properly, test *out*, i.e. with the *outcome* of testing to an *extreme* (unwarranted) degree; "hyper-test," going to improper measures which exceed appropriate boundaries and pushing the one tested beyond reasonable (proper) limits.**

<http://biblehub.com/greek/1598.htm>





- Truth is not dependent upon the motive of one seeking it.

## B. The Lord's Question, 10:26

Lu. 10:26 He said unto him, what is written in the law? how readest thou?

1. The question contained a principle –  
“...What is written in the law?”
2. The question confronted personally – “...how readest **thou**?”

Rom. 14:12 So then **every one of us shall give account of himself** to God.





## C. The Lawyer's Response

Lu. 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.

28 And he said unto him, Thou hast answered right: **this do**, and thou shalt live.

29 But he, willing to justify himself, said unto Jesus, And who is my neighbour?





- Knowing the truth is ineffective unless it is implemented.

Lu. 10:28 And he said unto him, Thou hast answered right: **this do**, and thou shalt live.

Lu. 10:37 And he said, He that shewed mercy on him. Then said Jesus unto him, **Go, and do thou likewise.**

- Self-justification with God will lead to horrible humbling from God.

Lu. 10:29 But he, **willing to justify himself**, said unto Jesus, And **who is my neighbour?**





"It depends on what the meaning of the word 'is' is."

Bill Clinton and the Meaning of "Is"

[http://www.slate.com/articles/news\\_and\\_politics/chatterbox/1998/09/bill\\_clinton\\_and\\_the\\_meaning\\_of\\_is.html](http://www.slate.com/articles/news_and_politics/chatterbox/1998/09/bill_clinton_and_the_meaning_of_is.html)

## II. THE PARABLE CONSIDERED, 10:30-35

Lu. 10:30 And Jesus answering said, A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead.

31 And by chance there came down a certain **priest** that way: and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side.

32 And likewise a **Levite**, when he was at the place, came and looked on him, 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 on him,  
34 And went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him.  
35 And on the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave them to the host, and said unto him, Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee.

#### A. An Opportunity Existed, Lu. 10:30

Lu. 10:30 And Jesus answering said, A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead.





- No explanation offered as to why society was wickedly destructive.
- Simple truth stated – the Jewish man was in bad shape – “half dead.”

B. An Opportunity Eluded (priest), Lu. 10:31

Lu. 10:31 And by chance there came down a certain **priest** that way: and when he saw him, **he passed by on the other side.**

- An unexpected challenge confronted the priest.
- The priest saw the need and forfeited the opportunity to build a bridge.
- The priest passed by on the other side, eluding further knowledge of the need.
- Religious workers without compassion to act are **WORTHLESS** to mankind.





## C. An Opportunity Evaded (Levite), Lu. 10:32

Lu. 10:32 And likewise a **Levite**, when he was **at the place**, **came and looked on him**, and **passed by on the other side**.

- All priests were Levites, but not all Levites were priests.
- The heritage was just as religious, but also just as calloused.
- The Levite examined the need.

**Original Word:** ὁράω

**Transliteration:** horaó

**Definition:** I see, look upon, experience, perceive, discern, beware.

<http://biblehub.com/greek/3708.htm>



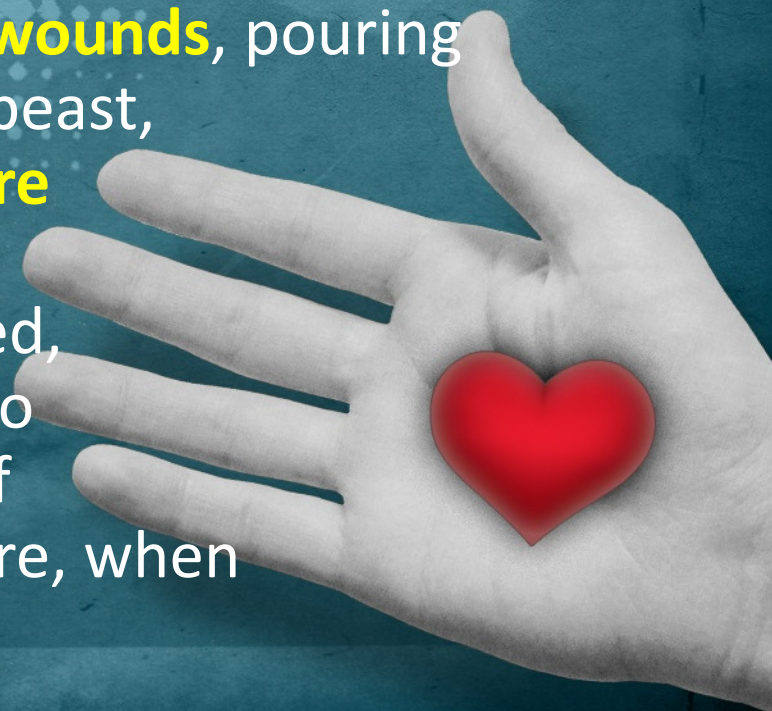


- The Levite was not compassionate, only curious.
- Religious curiosity is NOT spirituality, and does NOTHING for mankind.

#### D. An Opportunity Embraced (Samaritan), Lu. 10:33-35

Lu. 10:33 But a certain **Samaritan**, as he journeyed, **came where he was**: and **when he saw him, he had compassion on him**,  
34 And **went to him**, and **bound up his wounds**, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and **brought him to an inn, and took care of him**.

35 And on the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave them to the host, and said unto him, Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee.





- The Samaritan was an offense to the lawyer.
- The Samaritan came where the need was and began building a bridge to remedy the need.
- The Samaritan, just like the Levite, “saw” the need.
- The Samaritan, not like the priest and Levite, had compassion on the wounded one.
- The Samaritan was THE NEIGHBOR that Jesus was teaching the lawyer.





### III. THE PRINCIPLE COMMANDED, 10:36-37

Lu. 10:36 **Which** now of these three, thinkest thou, **was neighbour** unto him that fell among the thieves?

37 And he said, He that shewed mercy on him. Then said Jesus unto him, **Go, and do thou likewise.**

A. Discernment of the Neighbor –  
“Which...was neighbour...”

- The lawyer was to love his neighbor, even a Samaritan!
- The lawyer acknowledged the truth Jesus taught, but not the Samaritan.





## B. Doing as a Neighbor – “...**Go, and do thou likewise.**”

- Knowing the truth is ineffective unless it is implemented.
- The Samaritan, not the lawyer, exhibited the example of a neighbor.
- The “neighbour” is one who builds the bridge of compassion that is manifested in supplying a remedy.
- The “neighbour” used his own resources, willingly, to build the bridge.
- The “neighbour” provided for the future needs.
- The “neighbour” showed mercy, just like God does for all of us!





Psa. 86:5 For thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive; and  
**plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee.**

15 But **thou, O Lord, art a God full of compassion, and  
gracious, longsuffering, and plenteous in mercy and truth.**





## Conclusion

- The lawyer's pride faced the humbling truth that he was worse than a Samaritan!
- The Levite and the priest had the same opportunity as the Samaritan to BE a neighbor and build a bridge with the one in need.
- Same roadway; same injured man; same opportunity; same uncomfortable challenge...
- Only one moved from his comfort zone.
- While on the journey of life, our path intersects many others on their journey, and when opportunity avails itself, we need to be a compassionate neighbor, building a benevolent bridge with those in need.
- We need to love those, especially, that have been a neighbor to us!





Job 24:12 Men groan from out of the city, and **the soul of the wounded crieth out:**

Prov. 18:14 The spirit of a man will sustain his infirmity; but **a wounded spirit who can bear?**

Isa. 53:5 But **he was wounded for our transgressions**, he was bruised for our iniquities:





Mt. 11:28 Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and **I will give you rest.**

29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Psa. 34:18 **The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart;** and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.

Psa. 147:3 He healeth **the broken in heart,** and **bindeth up their wounds.**

