

Helping Those in Need

[Luke 10:25-37](#)

[Luke 10:25-37 \(NASB\)](#)

²⁵ “And a lawyer stood up and put Him to the test, saying, “Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?”

²⁶ And He said to him, “What is written in the Law? How does it read to you?”

²⁷ And he answered, “**YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND; AND YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.**”

²⁸ And He said to him, “You have answered correctly; **DO THIS AND YOU WILL LIVE.**”

²⁹ But wishing to justify himself, he said to Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”

³⁰ Jesus replied and said, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among robbers, and they stripped him and beat him, and went away leaving him half dead.

³¹ And by chance a priest was going down on that road, and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side.”

³² Likewise a Levite also, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side.

³³ But a Samaritan, who was on a journey, came upon him; and when he saw him, he felt compassion,

³⁴ and came to him and bandaged up his wounds, pouring oil and wine on *them*; and he put him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn and took care of him.

³⁵ On the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper and said, ‘Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I return I will repay you.’

³⁶ “Which of these three do you think proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell into the robbers’ *hands*?”

³⁷ And he said, “The one who showed mercy toward him.” Then Jesus said to him, “Go and do the same.”

In [Matthew 22:39](#), Jesus tells us the second greatest commandment is to love our neighbor as ourselves.

[Matthew 22:39 \(NASB\)](#)

³⁹ “The second is like it, ‘**YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.**’”

The best way to demonstrate care for relatives, friends, neighbors, and church family is to follow the Lord’s example and bear their burdens. Not only did the Savior take our sin debt upon Himself at Calvary; He also shared in the hurts of those who sought His comfort: blind Bartimaeus ([Mark 10:46](#)),

[Mark 10:46 \(NASB\)](#)

⁴⁶ “Then they came to Jericho. And as He was leaving Jericho with His disciples and a large crowd, a blind beggar *named* Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus, was sitting by the road.”

the woman caught in adultery ([John 8:3-11](#)), and

John 8:3-11 (NASB)

³ The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman caught in adultery, and having set her in the center of the court,

⁴ they said to Him, “Teacher, this woman has been caught in adultery, in the very act.”

⁵ “Now in the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women; what then do You say?”

⁶ They were saying this, testing Him, so that they might have grounds for accusing Him. But Jesus stooped down and with His finger wrote on the ground.

⁷ But when they persisted in asking Him, He straightened up, and said to them, “He who is without sin among you, let him *be the* first to throw a stone at her.”

⁸ Again He stooped down and wrote on the ground.

⁹ When they heard it, they *began* to go out one by one, beginning with the older ones, and He was left alone, and the woman, where she was, in the center of the court.

¹⁰ Straightening up, Jesus said to her, “Woman, where are they? Did no one condemn you?”

¹¹ She said, “No one, Lord.” And Jesus said, “I do not condemn you, either. Go. From now on sin no more.”]

those who were demon-oppressed ([Matt. 4:24](#)). Jesus doesn’t discriminate with regard to whose burdens He will carry.

Matthew 4:24 (NASB)

²⁴ “The news about Him spread throughout all Syria; and they brought to Him all who were ill, those suffering with various diseases and pains, demoniacs, epileptics, paralytics; and He healed them.”

We are often tempted to be selective in choosing which acquaintances to help. According to Jesus’ example, we cannot bear someone else’s burdens based upon whether that person has lived up to some standard we have set. There are people who will never dress like us, hold opinions similar to ours, or share our interests. But those same people might be hurting and in need of somebody to help carry their difficulties. A genuine expression of godly love can transform the life of a person weighed down by struggles.

Even when we understand that lifting the weight of someone else’s load fulfills the law of Christ, Christians are frequently tempted to pass such responsibility to a pastor or Sunday school teacher. But the Lord intends something different for the lives of His children. Our unique experiences equip us to help in ways that the pastor or teacher—who have different experiences—cannot. Ask God how you can begin to help bear the burden of neighbors who are hurting.