

Lesson 20: The Parable of the Good Samaritan

Objective: To learn that we Christians must follow the example of the Good Samaritan to help those who are in need.

Background: From Luke 9:51 to 12:44 we learn that Jesus spent the last few months of His life working in Judea and also in Perea, which is beyond the Jordan River (see the map) where He was baptized three years ago. It was the first time Jesus came to teach in Perea and the crowd gathered to hear Him.

Instructions: Read over Luke 10:25-37 as if you were there when the lawyer came to Jesus. Please act out the parable of the Good Samaritan in the class.

Let's Think: Ask the Lord to speak to you as you study and think.

Introduction

One day an expert on Moses' law (known as "lawyer" or "Scribe") came to test Jesus, the unofficial teacher, to see whether He would give the right answers. He asked Jesus two questions and twice, Jesus made His answer His own questions. The lawyer tried to give Jesus a hard time, but instead he had a hard time.

First Question: "What must I do to receive eternal life?" (Luke 10:25)

1. What commandments did the lawyer give when Jesus made his answer his own question? (Luke 10:26,27) What "grade" did Jesus give him? and What did He say to the lawyer? (Luke 10:28) Is "to know" the commandment the same as "to do" the commandment? Think about it!

2. Read the commandment again. How are we to love God? How are we to love others (neighbor)? Do we "love God" when we hate others? Read also 1John 4:20-21

Second Question: "Who is my fellow-man (neighbor)?" (Luke 10:29)

When the lawyer asked the second question, Jesus told him a story of a Samaritan and a "wounded Jew". Please read again the parable of "The Good Samaritan" in Luke 10:30-37.

3. How did the robber, the priest and the Levite each break (disobey) God's commandment, "Love your fellow-man as yourself"? Read also Romans 13:10 and James 4:17.

4. How did the hated, despised Samaritan keep the commandment? (see John 4:9) How did the Samaritan show his love for the "wounded Jew"? Tell what he did. Is love a "feeling or doing"? Is love "giving" or "getting"? Think about it!

5. Did the lawyer know who became the wounded man's neighbor? Who? What did Jesus tell the lawyer at the end? Who should he "pattern" (follow) after? (Luke 10:36,37)

Action

6. Which person in the parable had the following attitude:

a) What is yours is mine _____

b) What is mine is yours _____

c) What is yours is mine _____

Think how you could be "The Good Samaritan" to the people who are starving? Would you be "The Good Samaritan" to them?

Let's Remember: "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." (Luke 10:27)

