

Familiarity often breeds complacency and detachment.

"Safe? Who said anything about being safe? 'Course he's not safe. But he's good."

LUKE 10:25-28 (ESV)

²⁵ And behold, a lawyer stood up to put him to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" ²⁶ He said to him, "What is written in the Law? How do you read it?"

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."



LUKE 10:29 (ESV)

But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

"desiring to justify himself"



Everyone operates by a list.



We are in pursuit of significance and identity.



LUKE 10:30-36 (ESV)

Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him and departed, leaving him half dead. ³¹ Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side.



³² So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³ But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion. ³⁴ He went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine.



35 And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take care of him, and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.' 36 Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?"



Religion has a way of causing us to miss the people God created and calls us to love ...because we have too much to do.

What kind of neighbor are you?



LUKE 10:37 (ESV)

He said, "The one who showed mercy." And Jesus said to him, and do likewise."

In the Gospel, we aren't the Good Samaritan, we are the one in the ditch.

Jesus is the True Good Samaritan that binds up our wounds, anoints us with oil, feeds our souls, and takes us into His home.



EZEKIEL 36:26 (ESV)

And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you.



Once you have experienced the genuine compassion and mercy of God, you are moved to share.



"For such a time as this."



Jesus doesn't prescribe who our neighbor is. Instead, Jesus changes who we are that we might see people where they are.



Love your "enemies"



No one is ever mocked, criticized, belittled, or bullied into a relationship with Jesus...they are loved into it.

Love is the only means by which "an enemy" is turned into a friend.