

Setting the Bar High

Luke 10:25-37

Jesus said that His followers are to help people in need. His parable in Luke 10:25-27 includes 2 guys who _____ at that job.

Jesus was likely having a meal with His disciples and some other attendees when this man stood. An interpreter of the _____ Law asked Jesus, “What is the greatest commandment? The answer was, “Love _____ with all your heart, soul, strength, and mind and your _____ as yourself.” The guy then felt the need to _____ himself. so, he asked: “Who is my neighbor?”

He was probably thinking, “Here I am, _____, well-fed, among friends while many in need are just outside _____ . Do I have to include _____ as neighbors? Can’t we just make the circle this table or this house? Surely these ‘near’ people are enough neighbors?”

Jesus’ parable included 2 people whose _____ in that religious society was to help people. They saw a man beaten, stripped, and left for dead by bandits, and they _____. A Samaritan stopped and helped him. Then Jesus asked, “Who acted like a neighbor? “The guy who showed _____.” “So, go and do stuff _____ to people _____.”

The guy wanted Jesus to draw a comfortable, _____ circle of neighbors. Instead, Jesus drew the circle so _____ no one could ever _____ to the task and feel _____. Jesus was always setting the discipleship bar so high no one could ever think they had arrived. He was saying “don’t ever get comfortable.” He’s not talking about _____ but _____. One of the great weaknesses of the church today is that we are prone to make our lists of dos and don’ts, and of neighbors, _____. Jesus makes these lists long and challenges us never to think we are a _____ product.

It seems impossible. Maybe start this week by getting to know your _____ - _____ - _____ and meeting _____ for them. Then see where else the Spirit leads.