

Observation Questions

- In asking “who is my neighbor?” what do you suppose the lawyer is getting at?
- Who was (and was not) considered a neighbor in ancient Israel?
- Explain how this parable would have scandalized the Jewish leaders (like the lawyer) upon hearing it?
- What extent did the Samaritan show mercy to the man who fell among robbers? Why does Jesus emphasize this in the story?
- Reflect upon the difference between how the lawyer asked his question in v. 29 (“who is my neighbor?”) and Jesus’s reply in v. 36 (“which of these three proved to be a neighbor?”).

Application Questions

- How is Jesus's expansion of "neighbor" consistent with his/church's mission to the nations?
- Apply this comment on v. 36 to your own life: "For Jesus, one does not *have* a neighbor; one *is* a neighbor, or better, *becomes* a neighbor."
- What lifestyle changes must we (as a CG) and you as a follower of Christ make in order to become neighbors to those we live, work, and play around?

Prayer

Pray for a neighborly heart towards those God has placed in our lives. Pray for open eyes and quick action to serve where God calls us.

Notes

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