

Victoria Fellowship Church
International & Interdenominational
Bible Study Worksheet – October 30, 2022

Theme: The World Eagerly Awaits Your Manifestation Topic: Being Good and Exhibiting Goodness

Main Texts: Luke 10:25-37

Key verse: Luke 10:36-37 – ‘So which of these three do you think was a neighbor to him who fell among thieves?’ And he said, “He who showed mercy on him.” Then Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.” (NKJV)

INTRODUCTION: Jesus’ story in our text today is a common scenario in our world. A certain man had been attacked by thieves and was left half dead! A certain priest came by and passed by on the other side. A Levite came and looked and passed by on the other side! *But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was. And when he saw him, he had compassion on him* (Luke 10:33). Cambridge dictionary defines compassion as ‘a strong feeling of sympathy and sadness for the suffering or bad luck of others and a wish to help them’. It was compassion that made the difference. It is compassion that propels goodness and acts of goodness which the world sees. ‘Passing by the other side’, or ‘turning the other way’ was even prohibited as pertaining to animals in the law of Moses not to mention human beings (Deuteronomy 22:4). Yet the priest and Levite who were supposedly custodians of the law passed the other way.

1. (a) Why do you think that the priest and Levite passed by the other side despite the law of Moses (b) Read Zechariah 7:9-10, Colossians 3:12, and 1 Peter 3:8. How do these passages position compassion for the believer? (c) According to Luke 10:33, what did the Samaritan have, which differentiated his actions from that of the priest and Levite?

What could have motivated the priest and the Levite to pass by on the other side of the road? Were they thinking it was unsafe to help? Or not sure if their effort will do the injured man any good. Or suspected the victim to be a Samaritan, with whom Jews did not associate. Or maybe they were too engrossed in their own thing to even assimilate the implication of an injured man lying by the roadside. The good Samaritan seemed to have paid attention to the plight of the wounded man, and therefore was able to display goodness. Goodness is exhibited by actions; taking initiative to meet a specific need for a specific person. The object of goodness certainly does not matter from Jesus’ story, nor does the extent matter. A neighbor is anyone who would benefit from our help. This may include a close family member who we may often neglect because we are looking for that neighbor outside. God expects us to imitate Him as dearly loved children and not be weary of doing good to anyone in need of it (Ephesians 5:1; Galatians 6:9-10).

2. (a) Exhibiting goodness requires that we pay earnest attention to the needs around us. In what practical ways can we grow in this regard. (b) Read Psalm 145:9 and Galatians 6:9-10. Why do you think the object of goodness does not matter? (c) Knowing what you know now about exhibiting goodness, how do you feel about those times you chose to pass by the other side?

There is no other way for us to be justified than by faith in the finished work of Christ and living in obedience to God displayed in our actions; for faith without works is dead! (James 2:26). The lawyer wanted to justify himself, but Jesus’ parable showed him the foolishness of his thoughts. It is the work that we do that others see and give glory to God (Matthew 5:16). It is the works that make our faith come alive and show the eagerly awaiting world who we are. In fact, we were *created for good works which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them* (Ephesians 2:10).

3. (a) Read Matthew 5:16 and James 2:17-26 Let participants discuss how these passages can encourage us in being good and exhibiting goodness (b) Read Matthew 6:1-4. Discuss how you can reconcile the instruction in this passage with that of Matthew 5:16. (c) Let participants share how they will apply the lessons from this study in the next 6 days

Prayer: Our dear heavenly Father, thank You for showing us how to be good and exhibit goodness. We ask that each one of us would not be weary in well doing but that our light will so shine that men may see our good works and give You the glory, Amen.