

Justice – Luke 10:25-37

²⁵ And behold, a certain lawyer stood up and tested Him, saying, “Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?”

²⁶ He said to him, “What is written in the law? What is your reading of it?”

²⁷ So he answered and said, “ ‘You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind,’ and ‘your neighbor as yourself.’ ”

²⁸ And He said to him, “You have answered rightly; do this and you will live.”

²⁹ But he, wanting to justify himself, said to Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”

³⁰ Then Jesus answered and said: “A certain *man* went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, who stripped him of his clothing, wounded *him*, and departed, leaving *him* half dead. ³¹ Now by chance a certain priest came down that road. And when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. ³² Likewise a Levite, when he arrived at the place, came and looked, and passed by on the other side. ³³ But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was. And when he saw him, he had compassion. ³⁴ So he went to *him* and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; and he set him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. ³⁵ On the next day, when he departed, he took out two denarii, gave *them* to the innkeeper, and said to him, ‘Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I come again, I will repay you.’ ³⁶ So which of these three do you think was neighbor to him who fell among the thieves?”

³⁷ And he said, “He who showed mercy on him.”

Then Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”

Open: What is the most unjust thing you have ever watched happen to someone else?

→What words in the passage need to be explained for you?

1. Who is asking the question in v. 25? Why? What is the questions?
2. How does Jesus answer the man in v. 26?
3. What is the most-used word in v. 27?
4. What does Jesus think of this answer? (v. 28)
5. What does the man ask next? Why? (v. 29)

NOTE: vv. 30-35 are known as The Parable of the Good Samaritan.

6. What happens to the man in v. 30?
7. Who passes by? What do they do? (vv. 31-32)
8. How does the Samaritan behave differently? (vv. 33-34)
9. How does the Samaritan further provide for the injured man? (v. 35)
10. What question does Jesus ask the lawyer in v. 36? How does he answer in v. 37)

Apply

- How would you answer Jesus’s question in v. 36?
- In the parable, who practices Justice most obviously?
- How does this justice differ from your ideas of justice?

We’re like moths trying to fly to the moon. We all know there’s something called justice, but we can’t quite get to it.

N T Wright