

### **Luke 10:25-37 and Matthew 9:35-38**

25 On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus.

“Teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

26 “What is written in the Law?” he replied. “How do you read it?”

27 He answered, “‘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, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’”

28 “You have answered correctly,” Jesus replied. “Do this and you will live.”

29 But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”

### **Luke 10:25-29**

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*Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against anyone **among your people**, but love your neighbor as yourself. I am the Lord.*

### **Leviticus 19:18**

- Love **your people** as you **love yourself**. (The Jewish People)
- The Lawyer asked - What is the minimum amount of Jewish people loving can I get away with
  - and still be right with God?
  - (How can I give God what he wants but still get what I want?)
  - (How close can I come to sinning without sinning?)
- Jesus never answered those kinds of questions.

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35 Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. 36 When he saw the crowds, **he had compassion on them**, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. 37 Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the **workers** are few. 38 Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out **workers** into his harvest field.”

### **Matthew 9:35-38**

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### **Compassion (Mercy)**

**Mercy is the fruit of compassion**

*76 And you, my child, will be called a prophet of the Most High; for you will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for him, 77 to give his people the knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of their sins, 78 because of the tender mercy of our God, by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven 79 to shine on those living in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the path of peace.”*

#### **Luke 1:77-79**

- In Luke 1:78 both compassion and mercy are used together, ***dia splanchna eleous theou***, “through God’s compassionate mercy,” to explain God’s act of salvation.
- **compassion:** *splanchnizoma* (Matthew 9)

#### **Compassion is also used by Luke:**

- when the father runs toward the prodigal son (15:20)
- when Jesus sees the widow at Nain who has lost her only son (7:13)
  - This verb for feeling compassion includes a physical aspect because the related noun ***splanchna*** means “bowels.”
  - Both the Greek verb and noun match our English expression “gut feeling.”

**We are not born with Christlike compassion.**

**We pray for it.**

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## **Compassion**

### **(Disciples did not like the Samaritans)**

*51 As the time approached for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem. 52 And he sent messengers on ahead, who went into a Samaritan village to get things ready for him; 53 but the people there did not welcome him, because he was heading for Jerusalem. 54 When the disciples James and John saw this, they asked, “Lord, do you want us to call fire down from heaven to destroy them?” 55 But Jesus turned and rebuked them. 56 Then he and his disciples went to another village.*

#### **Luke 9:51-56**

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*30 In reply Jesus said: “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead.*

31 A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. 32 So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. 33 But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, **he took pity** on him. 34 He **went to him** and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. 35 The next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and **when I return**, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.'

36 "Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?"

37 The expert in the law replied, "The one **who had mercy** on him." Jesus told him, "**Go and do likewise.**"

**Luke 10:30-37**

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36 "Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?"

37 The expert in the law replied, "The one **who had mercy** on him." Jesus told him, "**Go and do likewise.**"

**Luke 10:36-37**

- They lawyer uses the **aorist** tense - something that you do.
  - Jesus uses the **present** tense (before and after the 'point') as a way of life. (continuing action)
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## **Compassion (Mercy)**

**Mercy is the fruit of compassion**

**We are not born with Christlike compassion.**

**We pray for it.**

**Compassion:** sympathetic pity and concern for the sufferings or misfortunes of others and the desire to do something about it.

**Mercy:** application of compassion.

Jesus told him (us), "**Go and do likewise.**"