

# Day 1

## Today's Scripture reading: Luke 10:25-37

*One day an expert in religious law stood up to test Jesus by asking him this question: "Teacher, what should I do to inherit eternal life?"*

*26 Jesus replied, "What does the law of Moses say? How do you read it?"*

*27 The man answered, "'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your strength, and all your mind.' And, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"*

*28 "Right!" Jesus told him. "Do this and you will live!"*

*29 The man wanted to justify his actions, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"*

## ***Parable of the Good Samaritan***

*30 Jesus replied with a story: "A Jewish man was traveling from Jerusalem down to Jericho, and he was attacked by bandits. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him up, and left him half dead beside the road.*

*31 "By chance a priest came along. But when he saw the man lying there, he crossed to the other side of the road and passed him by. 32 A Temple assistant walked over and looked at him lying there, but he also passed by on the other side.*

*33 "Then a despised Samaritan came along, and when he saw the man, he felt compassion for him. 34 Going over to him, the Samaritan soothed his wounds with olive oil and wine and bandaged them. Then he put the man on his own donkey and took him to an inn, where he took care of him. 35 The next day he handed the innkeeper two silver coins, telling him, 'Take care of this man. If his bill runs higher than this, I'll pay you the next time*

*I'm here.'*

*36 "Now which of these three would you say was a neighbor to the man who was attacked by bandits?" Jesus asked.*

*37 The man replied, "The one who showed him mercy."*

*Then Jesus said, "Yes, now go and do the same."*

## **Backstory:**

The [Jericho Road](#) was famously dangerous and frequented by bandits.

The Samaritans were despised by the Jews of Jesus' day. They were essentially the descendants of 10 of the 12 tribes of Israel who centuries earlier had abandoned Jewish law, intermarried with and adopted many of the religious practices of occupying non-Jewish colonists.

## **Think about it:**

Can you imagine the listeners' shock as Jesus told the story? Talk about a plot twist!

"The first responder was a Samaritan?!! I did not see that coming!"

As shocking as the plot twist was, we shouldn't lose track of the question Jesus was answering (see verse 29 above): "And who is my neighbor?"

Jesus' point? The neighbor we are to love has a far broader definition than we may be understanding.

How's that for a plot twist!

## **DAY ONE JOURNAL**

What does this say about God? \_\_\_\_\_

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What does this say about people? \_\_\_\_\_

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What am I going to do about it? I will \_\_\_\_\_

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