

# Tell the Story: Who is my Neighbor?

Wylie United Methodist Church

Pastor Jeff Hatcher – October 16, 2011

## Luke 10:25-37

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?" 30 In reply Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he fell into the hands of 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, took him to an inn and took care of him. 35 The next day he took out two silver coins 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."

Jesus says a true neighbor...

## 1. CARES FOR HURTING PEOPLE!

v. 33 "he saw him, he took pity on him"

Jesus says a true neighbor...

## 2. GIVES OF HIS TIME, ENERGY AND RESOURCES!

He doesn't just care, he gets involved. He takes action.

v. 34 "He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, took him to an inn and took care of him."

## 1 John 3:16-18

16 This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers. 17 If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? 18 Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth.

Jesus says a true neighbor...

## 3. GIVES OF HIS STUFF!

He realizes that his stuff is really God's stuff.

v. 35 "The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said"

Jesus says a true neighbor...

## 4. FOLLOWS THROUGH!

v. 35 "... when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have."

There is a difference between "knowing" and "doing".

It not the one that professes kindness to us that is our neighbor, but rather the one that ACTS.

v. 37 "Go and do likewise."