

4. In the Middle eastern framework the key verse (the “climax”) is right at the centre of a balanced structure. (See Bailey’s diagram in the centre of this study.)

How do you understand the importance of the point that the traveller “was moved with compassion”?

5. Do you believe that it is possible “to choose” to be a good neighbour to others? Can you give any examples of how do we do this today ? (Consider Romans 6:15-23)

6. Reflecting on the parable, the innkeeper rarely scores a mention.

Do you see anything significant about the innkeeper and his part in the story?

Is there another lesson for us here?

7. The message on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> includes this quote of the ‘Soul Hub Newcastle, slogan – how do you respond to it?



“Everyone is welcome,  
Because nobody is perfect  
And anything can happen!”

The origin of this series of sermons and studies is Steve’s reading of Tim Keller’s book, “Generous Justice - How God’s Grace Makes Us Just”.

# GOD’S JUSTICE IN A HURTING WORLD

Sermon Series: 5 November - 17 December 2023

## Study 4: Justice and Your Neighbour

A study in parallel with the sermon on 26 November

### Reflections on the Good Samaritan

Read Luke 10:25-37

Discussion Questions:

1. Have you previously explored the parable of the Good Samaritan?

Did you find anything interesting or challenging as we considered the story this week?

2. In what way did you relate to any aspect of the lawyer’s unconscious privilege, prejudice or pride?
3. Jesus does not confront the lawyer or answer his question, but rather tells a story! What can we learn from Jesus’ approach?

## The Parable of the Good Samaritan (Lk 10:25-37)

### Seven Scenes as outlined by Kenneth Bailey\*

1. A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among *robbers*. And they stripped him and beat him and departed, leaving him half dead.

2. Now by coincidence a certain *priest* was going down that road, and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side.

3. Likewise also a *Levite* came to that place, and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side.

4. **And a certain Samaritan**, traveling, came to him, and when he saw him, he had compassion on him.

5. He went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine.

6. Then he put him on his own riding animal and led him (it) to the inn, and took care of him.

7. The next day he took out and gave two denarii to the manager and said, 'Take care of him, and whatever more you spend I, on my return, I will repay you.'

'Which of these three, do you think, proved neighbour to the man who fell among the robbers?'

He said, 'The one who showed mercy on him.'

And Jesus said to him, 'Go and do likewise.'

\*(Jesus Through Middle Eastern Eyes, Kenneth Bailey, Figure 22.3.)

**ROBBERS**  
Steal and Injure

**PRIEST**  
See  
Do nothing

**LEVITE**  
See  
Do nothing

**SAMARITAN**  
See and  
Show Compassion

**TREAT WOUNDS**  
(The Levite's failure)

**TRANSPORT THE MAN**  
(The Priest's failure)

**SPEND MONEY ON HIM**  
(Compensating for the thieves)

### The parable of the good Samaritan Luke 10:25-37

<sup>25</sup> On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. 'Teacher,' he asked, 'what must I do to inherit eternal life?'

<sup>26</sup> 'What is written in the Law?' he replied. 'How do you read it?'

<sup>27</sup> 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 neighbour as yourself."

<sup>28</sup> 'You have answered correctly,' Jesus replied. 'Do this and you will live.'

<sup>29</sup> But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, 'And who is my neighbour?'

<sup>30</sup> 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. <sup>31</sup> A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. <sup>32</sup> So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. <sup>33</sup> But a Samaritan, as he travelled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him.

<sup>34</sup> 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. <sup>35</sup> 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."

<sup>36</sup> 'Which of these three do you think was a neighbour to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?'

<sup>37</sup> The expert in the law replied, 'The one who had mercy on him.'

Jesus told him, 'Go and do likewise.'