

MasterClass #14

**Help! I've Fallen, and I can't Get Up!**

*Word*

**Scripture Reference**

Luke 10:25-37

**Discussion Questions**

1. Have you ever received help from someone that created a deep impression in you?
2. God has set a system for you to avail yourself of help when you need it and that system is the church. The Lord has called the church to help the world, and so when someone shouts, "Help! I've fallen, and I can't get up!" the church should jump into action. This is such an important life lesson which Jesus taught through a parable recorded in Luke 10:25-37. Discuss the conversation that transpired between the lawyer and Jesus. To justify himself, what was the man's next question that led Jesus to teach the parable of the Good Samaritan (v. 25-29)?
3. When the man asked Jesus, "Who is my neighbor?" he meant who should he be compelled to love and to be kind to or who should he be obliged to help. We can draw four principles about what it means for the Church to be a good neighbor:
  - a. **Principle #1: When a person is in need, that person just needs someone...anyone (v. 30).** Describe what happened to the man who was travelling? If you were in his shoes, what would be your desire at that moment? If you are desperately in need, would you care about who would help you? The Church—Christians—should understand that when someone is in need, that person doesn't care where help is coming from, but he/she will certainly remember who gave help. Discuss why it seems that Christians are not very well known for helping others. How can a follower of Christ do more?
  - b. **Principle #2: The deepest impressions are made through actions (v. 31-32).** Describe the first two people who saw the beaten man on the road. What would you have expected from them being a priest

and a Levite (both are called to help others as part of their job description)? How do you think the beaten man felt when these two men didn't extend help to him? Think of someone who might have needed your help, but you just ignored him/her. What impression do you think that person has on you as a Christian? What happens when your action do not reflect what you claim?

- c. **Principle #3: True compassionate help knows no bias or prejudice (v. 33).** Samaritans are not pure-blooded Jews. They were of a mixed race whom the pure Jews hated and resented, and so these two groups naturally have racial prejudice against each other. What did the Samaritan in the parable feel when he saw the beaten man on the road? How practical was the Samaritan's response to the man's need? Discuss the prejudices that Christians are guilty of. How do these biases affect the Christian testimony?
- d. **Principle #4: Sacrificial care is what will be remembered and responded to (v. 34-35).** The Samaritan helped the beaten man beyond what was expected of him. What extended help did he give to the beaten man? Had anyone sacrificially helped you in the past that you would drop everything off just to help that person back if he's in deep need? Why is it possible for you to respond with sacrificial care to someone?

*Walk*

*So which of these three do you think was neighbor to him who fell among the thieves? And he said, "He who showed mercy on him." Then Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise." (Luke 10:36-37)*

Remember that as a Christian, you are recipient of Jesus' compassionate and sacrificial help. He died in your place without bias and without condition. So examine your life: are you selective of the recipient of your compassion and help? How do your biases affect your compassion for others? For the gospel's sake, would you be willing to give sacrificial care for someone in need?

*Worship & Prayer*

*Heavenly Father, thank You so much for the example of my Lord Jesus Christ who sacrificially cared for me when I was in deep need and couldn't get up on my own. I am truly a recipient of His compassion without prejudice. In response, please help me to be sensitive to the urging of the Holy Spirit to reach out and meet others' needs, and that I would do it for Your glory and for the sake of my Christian testimony. Thank you that it is possible because of Your grace. In Jesus' name. Amen.*