

First Southern Baptist Church - 12-29-21
The Good Samaritan - Luke 10:25-37

Introduction:

1. A lawyer tempted Him (verse 25)
 -a specialist at the “law”
2. Yeah but... who is my neighbor?

Points:

1. Don't Bother Me!

- A. Two men - priest and Levite
 - characters of the parable in contrast
 - priest/ Levite = tribe
 - could not/ would not be bothered
- B. Possible to be very religious yet very selfish
 - guard against
 - being withdrawn
 - self-involved, self-focused
- C. Other examples of “don't bother me”
 - rich farmer - build bigger barns
 - rich man who went to hell - Lazarus at his gate
 - when did we see you hungry, naked or in prison?
 - disciples were concerned about the best seats in heaven

2. The Opposite of Christianity (selfishness)

- A. God's people have a habit of reaching out
 - Jesus did it through the incarnation
 He could have crossed arms and watched
 - Jesus did it through the cross
- B. The Samaritan was not religious
 - Don't know about prayer life...
 - Don't know about politics
 - Don't know about church attendance
 - Do know:
 - saw the need
 - cared about that need
 - cared enough to get involved (are you interested or involved?)
- C. The lawyer thought he loved people
 - standard held up to them
 - But, actions are a good test:
 - See need
 - the hospitals are full
 - prisons are full
 - poverty is everywhere
 - problems at school
 - Care

- difference is compassion
- difference between live Christian and a dead one = compassion
- Care enough to get involved?
- why should I get involved?
- why should Jesus have gotten involved?

3. A New Lifestyle

- Jesus came to make us new people
 - not just give a new worship
 - not know a lot about spiritual things
- A. Faith is supposed to end in works - fruit
 - know a tree by its "fruit"
- B. Doing vs doing nothing
 - normal believer defined by what they do not do
 - plant good deeds
 - known by love not know by indifference
 - not just refrain, but do something!
 - *Jesus went about doing good!
- C. Just takers or givers?
 - ask, what are you giving at home?
 - what about church?
 - at work?
 - Not just give
 - go the second mile
 - give from the heart
 - Example - hotel chain "plus one" service
 - How? Jesus within - spirit is an artesian well!
- D. The brother or the bothered?
 - No two more different persons
 - 1) Samaritan
 - look back
 - a true friend
 - 2) Religious two
 - meant nothing
 - empty religion

Remember how this got started?

Love = this is what love is -

-and note! - love to God

Intellectual discussion moved to real life

His will! Love!