

# Luke

## See Jesus

### What's Love Got to Do with It?

#### Luke 10:25-37

Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Brad Bigney / Nov. 21, 2021

#### I. You Might Think Love Is the Way

**Luke 10:27** “And he answered, ‘You shall 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 your neighbor as yourself.’”

The problem here is this man is not undone by what he just said and doesn't see how his life falls woefully short of measuring up to this great summary of all of God's commands.

It's important to keep the immediate context in mind:

**Luke 10:21** “In that same hour He rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, ‘I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; yes, Father, for such was Your gracious will.’”

Jesus was just rejoicing in the way His Father has hidden the simple truth of salvation from people who think they are so wise and has revealed it to those who simply humble themselves with childlike faith.

**Luke 10:25** “And behold, a lawyer stood up to put him to the test...”

This passage is not about social justice and compassion. It's still about the most important question of all: *Who does God save and how does He save them?*

Luke seems to be holding up this religious, law expert as an example of people who are wise in their own understanding. This man is not asking a sincere question, but trying to trap Jesus.

#### II. You Might Think You're Already Living the Right Way

Jesus commends him and offends him at the same time.

**Luke 10:28** “And He said to him, ‘You have answered correctly; do this, and you will live.’”

Jesus starts off by saying the man is correct in his answer. Then He puts that verb “do” in a present, active, imperative tense that indicates you must be doing this continually and widely, not just sporadically or occasionally and not just when it's convenient to do.

In other words, Jesus says, “You’ve got the right answer, but a wrong assessment of your own ability to do it. I want you to see how you *can’t* love God and other people like this. That’s why I took on flesh and came into this world.”

In our natural sinful condition, we can’t love God and other people the way God has called us to.

**Luke 10:29** “But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, ‘And who is my neighbor?’”

The man understood there’s no hope of his life ever measuring up to the standard of loving God and loving others continually, so he tries to change the standard and make it more manageable.

Real love can’t even start until you come face to face with how bankrupt you are on your own.

### **III. Jesus Loves Us Enough to Expose What’s Really Going on In Our Hearts**

Jesus doesn’t really answer the man’s question about who his neighbor is. Instead, He highlights and showcases the kind of sacrificial, loving neighbor God calls us to be.

Lack of information was not this man’s biggest problem and it’s not our biggest problem either! Our problem is a lack of real love that can only be solved by a new heart, that can only be found in a Savior who first loved us!

Jesus is not giving him a formula for how to love better. He’s trying to expose his heart and show him how shallow and superficial his own love really is. He’s trying to lead him to a point of despair so that he’ll cry out to be rescued from himself and see his great need for a Savior!

This parable shows us our great need for the Gospel because it answers the question this man had: *What can I do to inherit eternal life?*

Jesus didn’t come into our world to tell you how you could justify yourself. He came into this world to be your all-sufficient justifier and to do for you what you could never do for yourself.

**See Romans 3:21-26**