

N.I.M.B.Y.

Luke 10:25-37

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²⁵And behold, a lawyer stood up to put him to the test, saying, “Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?” ²⁶He said to him, “What is written in the Law? How do you read it?” ²⁷And 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.” ²⁸And he said to him, “You have answered correctly; do this, and you will live.”

²⁹But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” ³⁰Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him and departed, leaving him half dead. ³¹Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. ³²So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion. ³⁴He went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he set him on his own animal and brought him to an inn and took care of him. ³⁵And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, ‘Take care of him, and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.’ ³⁶Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?” ³⁷He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” And Jesus said to him, “You go, and do likewise.”

Question #1:

What shall I do to inherit eternal life?

⁵You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. ⁶And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. ⁷You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.

Deut. 6:4-7

What does it mean to love the Lord your God...?

- ⇒ It means He is in your thoughts day and night (Deut 6:7).
- ⇒ Not forgetting Him in times of prosperity (Deut. 6:12)
- ⇒ 1 John 2:15-16 – “Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world – the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride in possessions – is not from the Father but is from the world.”
- ⇒ Doing what is right and good (Deut. 6:18)
- ⇒ Telling your children the great things God has done for you (Deut. 6:7)
- ⇒ It means filtering life through the eyes of God (Heavenly Twitter).
- ⇒ Spending time with God.
- ⇒ Loving your neighbour as yourself (Lev. 19:18)
- ⇒ Showing mercy to those in need.
- ⇒ Giving back to God (2 Cor. 9:7).

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Question #2: Who is my neighbour?

⁹The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

Romans 13:9-10

The Parable of the Good Samaritan

A man traveling from Jerusalem to Jericho is robbed, stripped, beat and left half dead.

Priest – Served in the temple; their highest duty was to offer sacrifices.

Levite – Assisted in the maintenance of the temple services and order.

Samaritan – “took pity or had compassion”. A striking response that stands in contrast, not only to the attitude of the priest and Levite, but also to the usual feelings of hostility between Jew and Samaritan.

Question #3: Who proved to be a neighbour?

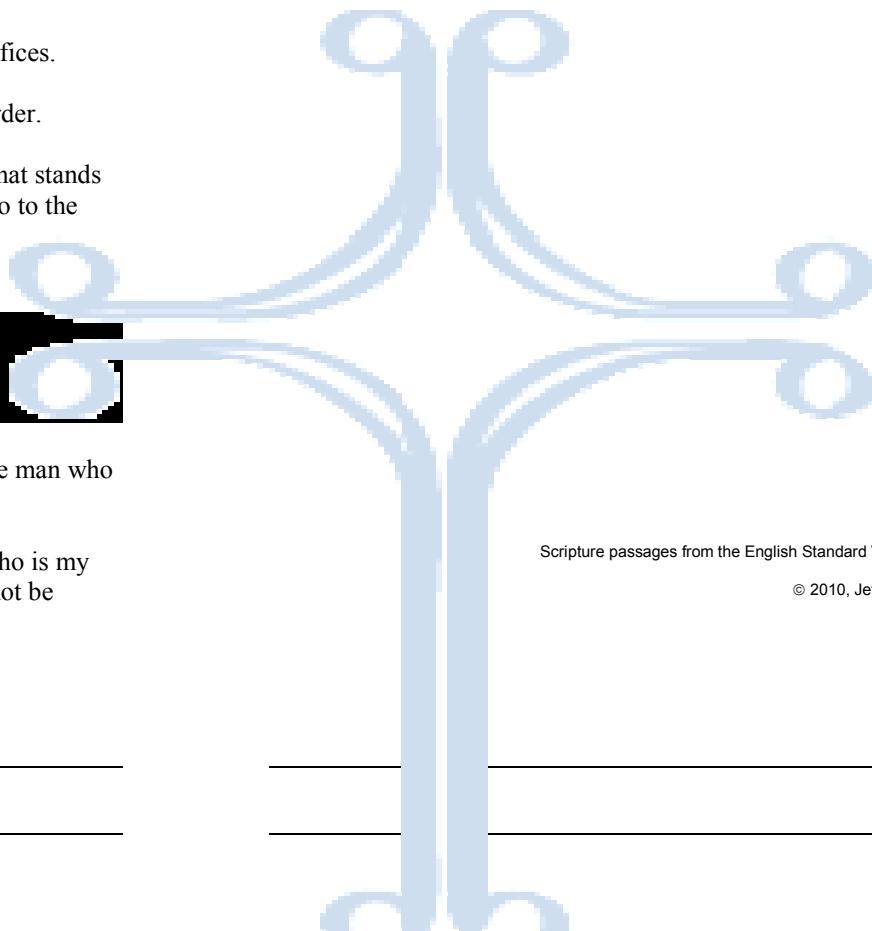
“Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?”

-Jesus turns the question upside down by changing the focus on who is my neighbour to “who made themselves a neighbour”. Love should not be limited by its object; but is in the control of the its subject.

What shall I do to inherit eternal life?

“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.”

N.I.M.B.Y. – Not in My Backyard



Scripture passages from the English Standard Version unless otherwise noted.

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