

**Who Showed Mercy** by Kirk Hunt

*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](#) NKJV  
Please also read [Luke 10:25-37](#)

At the time of Jesus’ earthly ministry, the Samaritans and Jew hated and despised each other. [They even destroyed or desecrated each others’ Temples](#). Still, the Samaritan had more mercy and compassion on the Jewish robbery victim than either the Jewish priest or Jewish Levite.

The sanctimonious lawyer got the point of the parable. So did everyone listening to Jesus teach at the time. Are you listening now?

The priest and Levite of the parable were expected, if not obligated, to care for their distressed countryman. Instead a hostile foreigner saved his life. Jesus made a blunt point about the nature of compassion, mercy, salvation, and righteousness.

Good Christians should reach out past the bounds of popular exclusions and exceptions. There will probably be cost or inconvenience. You may not like your neighbor, but that does not end your Godly obligation to assist or even safeguard him or her.

Jesus’ command at Luke 10:37 is simple, “Go and do likewise.” Put aside your rights, privileges, and comfort. Look around, in your own neighborhood, for men and women who need you to stop and have compassion. Your “do likewise” is here and now.

**Think:** I should show mercy even at the risk of cost or inconvenience to myself.

**Pray:** “Lord, help me to demonstrate Your love to my neighbors.”

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