

# **The Church You've Longed For**

## **Luke 10:25-37**

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1. There are a lot of people who have a low estimation about their life. We live in a cold, lonely, impersonal world, where those who take time to care for others are the exception, not the rule.
2. When we receive Christ, we not only enter into a relationship with Him, but with every other believer. We are called to serve and care for.
  - a. “Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.” Philippians 2:3-4
  - b. “Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves.” Romans 12:10
3. If we are going to be a caring church, we must be caring people. From this familiar passage known as The Parable of the Good Samaritan, let's learn how to care for others.
  - I. What Are The Characteristics of Uncaring People? Luke 10:25-32, “On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. ‘Teacher,’ he asked, ‘what must I do to inherit eternal life?’ ‘What is written in the Law?’ he replied. ‘How do you read it?’ ”
    - A. Jesus was asked a tough question. (vv. 25-29).
    - B. Jesus answered with a parable in verses 30-32.
    - C. We marvel at the lack of compassion and care from two religious men.
      1. Uncaring people are self-centered.
      2. Uncaring people isolate themselves.
      3. Uncaring people are not observant.
      4. Uncaring people are often judgmental.
  - II. What Are Some Characteristics of Caring People? Luke 10:33-37, “But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, took him to an inn and took care of him.” (vv. 33-34)
    - A. Caring people put aside their prejudices. (v. 33a).
    - B. Caring people respond to others’ pain (v. 33b).
    - C. Caring people take time to be compassionate (v. 33c).
    - D. Caring people get involved (v. 34).
    - E. Caring people are not stingy (v. 35).
    - F. Jesus concludes with a penetrating question (vv. 36-37).
  - III. Five Simple Steps to Becoming a Caring Person.
    - A. First, identify people who need your care.
    - B. Second, reach out to others; don't wait for them to come to you.
    - C. Third, communicate beyond the superficial level.
    - D. Fourth, empathize with people. Galatians 6:2
    - E. Fifth, listen without judging.