

# The Other side of the Road - August 11th - Pastor Peter

#### **LUKE 10:30-37**

"Jesus replied with a story: "A Jewish man was traveling from Jerusalem down to Jericho, and he was attacked by bandits. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him up, and left him half dead beside the road. "By chance a priest came along. But when he saw the man lying there, he crossed to the other side of the road and passed him by. <sup>32</sup> A Temple assistant walked over and looked at him lying there, but he also passed by on the other side. "Then a despised Samaritan came along, and when he saw the man, he felt compassion for him. <sup>34</sup> Going over to him, the Samaritan soothed his wounds with olive oil and wine and bandaged them. Then he put the man on his own donkey and took him to an inn, where he took care of him. <sup>35</sup> The next day he handed the innkeeper two silver coins, [b] telling him, 'Take care of this man. If his bill runs higher than this, I'll pay you the next time I'm here. "Now which of these three would you say was a neighbor to the man who was attacked by bandits?" Jesus asked. The man replied, "The one who showed him mercy."Then Jesus said, "Yes, now go and do the same."

# 1. The Bigger Picture

Here's the bigger picture from the story of the Good Samaritan. There are powerful symbols at play.

It's about all of us. And it's a story about the One who helps us.

We're the ones who are broken. We're the ones who are hurt.

But then the greatest Good Samaritan comes. But then Jesus comes.

He comes to pick us up. He comes to turn us around.

Jesus comes to the other side of the road and He sets us free.

John 8:36 "So if the Son sets you free, you are truly free."

Right after Jesus is baptized, the heavens open, the Spirit comes down like a dove.

## **QUESTIONS:**

1. With whom can you
identify in the parable of
the Good Samaritan?

2.	Why do you think
Sa	tan tried to trick Jesus
usi	ng truth in scripture?

3.	Who	is th	ne	Go	od
Sai	marita	n in	٧.	our	life?

Matthew 3:16 "This is My dearly loved Son, who brings Me great joy."

But then it changes.

Mark 1:12,13 "The Spirit then compelled Jesus to go into the wilderness, where He was tempted by Satan for forty days. He was out among the wild animals, and angels took care of Him."

Notice that it was the Spirit who compels Jesus to go. This is a battle Jesus has to fight and it's a battle Jesus has to win.

God can use the struggle. God can use the disappointment.

God can use the hurt. God can use everything to make you stronger.

Romans 8:28 "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose."

You might feel like a prisoner in your situation but you're actually a prisoner of hope and you're anchored in Jesus.

Zechariah 9:12 "Return to your fortress, you prisoners of hope; even now I announce that I will restore twice as much to you."

It's this second temptation that is fascinating.

Matthew 4:5,6 "Then the devil took Him to the holy city, Jerusalem, to the highest point of the Temple, and said, 'If you are the Son of God, jump off! For the Scriptures say, 'He will order His angels to protect You. And they will hold You up with their hands so You won't even hurt Your foot on a stone."

He's quoting from Psalm 91. What he's saying is true. He's not making this up.

Think back to the early chapters of Genesis.

Genesis 3:1 "One day he asked the woman, 'Did God really say you must not eat the fruit from any of the trees in the garden?"

That's not what God actually said, he's twisting God's words.

Here's how Jesus answers the temptation.

### **OUESTIONS:**

1. What conclusion did the four men with leprosy come to on 2 Kings 7:9?

- 2. What is Jesus calling us on to do and why should we do it?

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Matthew 4:7 "The Scriptures also say, 'You must not test the Lord your God.'"	3. What is the good side of the road for us?
'The scriptures also say.' 'They also say.'	
'What you say is true, but there's another truth.'	
He's the One who helps. He's the One who heals.	
He's the One who sets people free.	
He's the One who comes to the other side of the road.	
He's the One who comes to broken people just like us.	
2. Our Picture	
It was the first Easter Sunday. Jesus appears to a group of His followers.	
John 20:21 "As the Father has sent Me, so I am sending you."	HOW CAN I APPLY
This is the very first directive that the resurrected Jesus gives to His followers.	THIS TO MY LIFE?
God has strategically placed all of us in the Capital Region.	
The combined population of Ottawa and Gatineau is estimated to be around 1,452,000 people.	
1,452,000 people live within a 40 minute drive of this church.	
In Canada, approximately 8% of the population are evangelical followers of Jesus.	
If the statistics for evangelicals holds true here, there are around 1,335,000 people within 40 minutes of this church who don't know Jesus.	

There are 1,335,000 people who are spiritually broken, lying on the

side of the road.

There are 1,335,000 people who need to know Jesus.	
2 Kings 7:9 "This is a day of good news, and we aren't sharing it with anyone!"	
"Evangelism is just one beggar telling another beggar where to find bread." Charles Spurgeon	
God has strategically placed each one of us at this moment in this city to make a difference for Him.	
Matthew 10:5-8 "Go to the lost, confused people right here in the neighborhood. Tell them that the kingdom is here. Bring health to the sick. Raise the dead. Touch the untouchables. Kick out the demons. You have been treated generously, so live generously." MSG	
Putting it all together (Application)	
1. We are the man on the side of the road. We need help. We have wounds, we are desperate, we cannot help ourselves. The wounds of life are a testament of the battles we have gone through. We have been stripped of what is ours, the truth of the love, mercy and compassion of the one who created us. God. Unless we accept our reality, we won' be able to accept the help being offered by Jesus. Our mind may think we are doing fine and that we are still standing or maybe that we can still stand up but the reality is we are down by the side of the road wounded and we can't get up by ourselves. We are lying in the grounded, in pain and we are motivating ourselves with thoughts that tells us we can do it and that we need to get up. But our body can't, our strength is not strong enough. We need Jesus to come and treat our wounds, carry us to a place where we can be taken care of. He is willing to help you, are we willing to let him help you?	
2. Jesus is sending you. When we read the bible and the fascinating historic stories in it, we sometimes miss the point that we are also writing history. We read how Jesus told his disciples "As the Father has sent Me, so I am sending you." (John 20:21) and think "well that was told to them, not me". He is telling this directive to all who are his followers. This is a directive that ended with the death of the first ones that heard it, it was passed along generations of Jesus followers until today. This is the place where God has put is and for this time God has brought us here. To go and share the good news to	

everyone around us. The call starts with us. We cannot brush off the responsibility of the call from Jesus by expecting others to attend the call and not us. "oh, I thought that is the job of the pastor or the church leaders. How about other fellow Christians who have been Christians for longer time than I?" Jesus is sending you.	
ACTION STEPS:	