

## **Luke 10:25-37    The Parable of the Good Samaritan**

<sup>25</sup> Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus.<sup>[a]</sup> "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" <sup>26</sup> He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" <sup>27</sup> 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." <sup>28</sup> And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."

<sup>29</sup> But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" <sup>30</sup> Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. <sup>31</sup> Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. <sup>32</sup> So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. <sup>33</sup> But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. <sup>34</sup> He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. <sup>35</sup> The next day he took out two denarii,<sup>[b]</sup> gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.' <sup>36</sup> Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" <sup>37</sup> He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

### **For our reflection together today, we consider:**

+ The Gospel text invites us, leads us to see/acknowledge the many people today who are "in the ditch," beaten, harmed, violated *and* our call to see them and respond as the church.

*Have you ever found yourself wounded, hurt on the side of the road and someone unexpectedly helped you?*

+ The Gospel text invites us/leads us to acknowledge the care and healing love the Samaritan shows toward the injured man as a sign of God's care and love *and* how we are called to this dynamic of care and love with the women in this ministry.

*How do we share love, compassion and mercy to others who don't look like us or with different beliefs than us?*

+ The Gospel text invites us/leads us to acknowledge the ending of the parable, "go and do likewise," *and* how serving with the women whose lives are on the streets is a way for us to share together in the mercy of God.

*Luke wants us to follow Jesus' footsteps. Today for instance, how can we support the women's ministry? Would you allow the Holy Spirit to guide you in the right direction?*