

in merit or mercy to get to heaven? Why does he ask, “And who is my neighbor?” What does he want to know? What does he want to do?

March 30, 2025
The Bridge Bible Fellowship
Pastor Paul S. Brown
Luke 10

“Do You Understand The Great Commandment?”

9. How does Jesus use the story of the Good Samaritan to confront the lawyer’s belief in merit instead of mercy? Note that in verses 27-28 and in verse 37 that the lawyer had the right answer. What does Jesus tell him to do both times as a result of his answer? How SHOULD the lawyer have responded to these commands?
10. Who is the ultimate Good Samaritan? What is the point of the story? What does it say about merit vs mercy?
11. If we understand that salvation is by God’s mercy and grace, how does that impact the way we approach others in the world (rich/poor; same ethnicity/different ethnicity; educated/uneducated; theist/atheist; moral/immoral)? What do they ultimately need? What is the greatest gift we can give them?
12. Bonus question: how do verses 38-42 help answer the question of how we the commandment to love God?
13. Final question: Do you get it? Do you understand WHO Jesus is and WHAT He came to do? COME to Him as Lord and Savior and receive His mercy and grace. He alone can get you to heaven. You cannot earn or deserve it. Then GO to a world that doesn’t get it. Pray for more to join you. Be merciful toward them as God has been toward you. Make sure the focus is on the MESSAGE, not the MESSENGER. Leave the results in God’s hands. And REJOICE when even one sinner repents & believes (gets it).

Discussion Questions and Application:

1. How would you say most people believe they will get to heaven? By merit or by mercy? How can you find out which way they believe they will get there? How do you believe you will get there?
2. Jesus sent out 70 of His disciples in pairs to the cities where He Himself was going to go (Lk. 10:1). What were they supposed to do? Why would they need to pray for more laborers?
3. One of our problems in evangelism is our concern for ourselves (what others think about us or what they might do to us). How does Jesus address those concerns in vv. 2-16?
4. What practical things can we do to keep our focus on the MESSAGE (Jesus) instead of the MESSENGER (us)?
5. How does verse 17 help us see that the disciples still don't fully understand what is most important? What correction does Jesus give them in vv. 18-20? Why were their names recorded in heaven? Merit or mercy?
6. In verses 21-22, who is it that will ultimately come to know Jesus and have their name recorded in heaven? What pressure does that off of you when you are witnessing to people, no matter what their religious background may or may not be?
7. In verses 23-24, what blessing is Jesus talking about? What are people in New Testament times able to see that they couldn't see in Old Testament times?
8. What kind of lawyer tested Jesus in vv. 25-29? Which person does he illustrate from verse 21? Does he believe