

WELCOME TO THINPLACE Listen and Pay Attention to what the Holy Spirit has for you today! Allow the Holy Spirit to be your teacher as you listen to the passages.

CANDLES...We LIGHT them together and BREATHE IN and ARE FILLED WITH the Hope, Peace, Joy and Love of **Jesus!**

REPEAT AFTER the LEADER Lord fill us with....

HANDS OF JESUS PRACTICE....Give all your burdens to Jesus to HOLD for you today.

PRAY THE PSALM TOGETHER:

PSALM 82 THE MESSAGE

God calls the judges into his courtroom,
he puts all the judges in the dock.

“Enough! You’ve corrupted justice long enough,
you’ve let the wicked get away with murder.

You’re here to defend the defenseless,
to make sure that underdogs get a fair break;

Your job is to stand up for the powerless,
and prosecute all those who exploit them.”

⁵ Ignorant judges! Head-in-the-sand judges!
They haven’t a clue to what’s going on.

And now everything’s falling apart,
the world’s coming unglued.

⁶⁻⁷ “I appointed you judges, each one of you,
deputies of the High God,
But you’ve betrayed your commission
and now you’re stripped of your rank, busted.”

⁸ O God, give them what they’ve got coming!
You’ve got the whole world in your hands!

PSALM 82 NIV

God presides in the great assembly;
he renders judgment among the “gods”:

² “How long will you^[a] defend the unjust
and show partiality to the wicked?^[b]

³ Defend the weak and the fatherless;
uphold the cause of the poor and the oppressed.

⁴ Rescue the weak and the needy;
deliver them from the hand of the wicked.

⁵ “The ‘gods’ know nothing, they understand nothing.
They walk about in darkness;
all the foundations of the earth are shaken.

⁶ “I said, ‘You are “gods”;
you are all sons of the Most High.’

⁷ But you will die like mere mortals;
you will fall like every other ruler.”

⁸ Rise up, O God, judge the earth,
for all the nations are your inheritance.



LUKE 10: 25-37 NIV

²⁵ On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

²⁶ “What is written in the Law?” he replied. “How do you read it?”

²⁷ He answered, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind”^[a]; and, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’^[b]”

²⁸ “You have answered correctly,” Jesus replied. “Do this and you will live.”

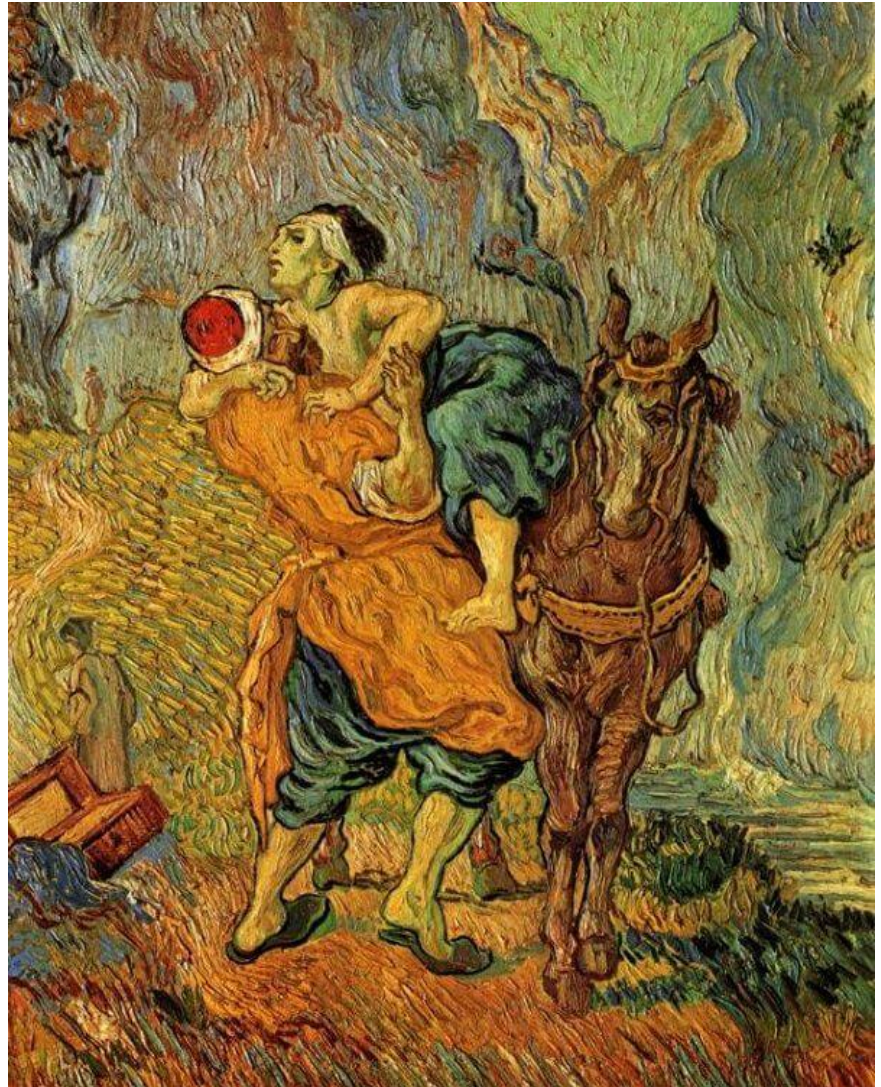
²⁹ But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”

³⁰ In reply Jesus said: “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. ³¹ A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. ³² So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³ But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. ³⁴ He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. ³⁵ The next day he took out two denarii^[c] and gave them to the innkeeper. ‘Look after him,’ he said, ‘and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.’

³⁶ “Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?”

³⁷ The expert in the law replied, “The one who had mercy on him.”

Jesus told him, “Go and do likewise.”



The Good Samaritan by Vincent Van Gogh

<https://www.vincentvangogh.org/the-good-samaritan.jsp#prettyPhoto>

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LUKE 10: 25-37 THE MESSAGE

25 Just then a religion scholar stood up with a question to test Jesus. “Teacher, what do I need to do to get eternal life?”

26 He answered, “What’s written in God’s Law? How do you interpret it?”

27 He said, “That you love the Lord your God with all your passion and prayer and muscle and intelligence—and that you love your neighbor as well as you do yourself.”

28 “Good answer!” said Jesus. “Do it and you’ll live.”

29 Looking for a loophole, he asked, “And just how would you define ‘neighbor’?”

30-32 Jesus answered by telling a story. “There was once a man traveling from Jerusalem to Jericho. On the way he was attacked by robbers. They took his clothes, beat him up, and went off leaving him half-dead. Luckily, a priest was on his way down the same road, but when he saw him he angled across to the other side. Then a Levite religious man showed up; he also avoided the injured man.

33-35 “A Samaritan traveling the road came on him. When he saw the man’s condition, his heart went out to him. He gave him first aid, disinfecting and bandaging his wounds. Then he lifted him onto his donkey, led him to an inn, and made him comfortable. In the morning he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, ‘Take good care of him. If it costs any more, put it on my bill—I’ll pay you on my way back.’

36 “What do you think? Which of the three became a neighbor to the man attacked by robbers?”

37 “The one who treated him kindly,” the religion scholar responded.

Jesus said, “Go and do the same.”



The Good Samaritan by Rembrandt

<https://www.rembrandtpaintings.com/the-good-samaritan.jsp#prettyPhoto>

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LUKE 10: 25-37 NEW ENGLISH TRANSLATION

Now^[a] an expert in religious law^[b] stood up to test Jesus,^[c] saying, “Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?”^[d] ²⁶ He said to him, “What is written in the law? How do you understand it?”^[e] ²⁷ The expert^[f] answered, “**Love^[g] the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind,^[h] and love your neighbor as yourself.**”^[i] ²⁸ Jesus^[j] said to him, “You have answered correctly;^[k] do this, and you will live.”

²⁹ But the expert,^[l] wanting to justify^[m] himself, said to Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” ³⁰ Jesus replied,^[n] “A man was going down^[o] from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat^[p] him up, and went off, leaving him half dead.^[q] ³¹ Now by chance^[r] a priest was going down that road, but^[s] when he saw the injured man^[t] he passed by^[u] on the other side.^[v] ³² So too a Levite, when he came up to^[w] the place and saw him,^[x] passed by on the other side. ³³ But^[y] a Samaritan^[z] who was traveling^[aa] came to where the injured man^[ab] was, and when he saw him, he felt compassion for him.^[ac] ³⁴ He^[ad] went up to him^[ae] and bandaged his wounds, pouring olive oil^[af] and wine on them. Then^[ag] he put him on^[ah] his own animal,^[ai] brought him to an inn, and took care of him. ³⁵ The^[aj] next day he took out two silver coins^[ak] and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, ‘Take care of him, and whatever else you spend, I will repay you when I come back this way.’^[al] ³⁶ Which of these three do you think became a neighbor^[am] to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?” ³⁷ The expert in religious law^[an] said, “The one who showed mercy^[ao] to him.” So^[ap] Jesus said to him, “Go and do^[aq] the same.”



Good Samaritan by Dinah Roe Kendall 2014

Questions to Consider during Silence

What is God's Word for you today? What is God speaking you about today?

Use the psalm and/or the Gospel passage as your inspiration. Write, Journal, or create in Art, or Just BE with Jesus. Allow the Holy Spirit to inspire you! Feel free to use these questions the rest of the week.

What is God, the Holy Spirit speaking to you about today?

What do you notice that you haven't noticed before? What questions come up for you from this passage?

The Psalm talks a lot about judges, what kind of a judge have you been lately?

How does it feel to know that God has the whole world in God's hands...at the end of the Psalm ?

We often put ourselves in this parable as the Samaritan....What if you are the person who has been attacked?

How have you felt attacked by bandits, abandoned or left for dead?

Why is it hard for you to receive help from others?

The Samaritans were despised in the time of Jesus. From whom, which person or people group would you find it hard to be cared for or helped?

Who are the Samaritans of our day?

Who are the people or groups rejected by society?

Who are the people or groups that you reject?

USE this prayer of confession and talk to Jesus about your answers to the above questions

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

SEE THE NEXT PAGE FOR MORE QUESTIONS:

● **READ** the excerpt about the Good Samaritan from Martin Luther King Jr's "I've Been to the Mountain Top" Speech (SEE NEXT PAGE)

In his speech "I've Been to the Mountaintop," Martin Luther King, Jr. put it this way. "The priest and the Levite ask, 'If I stop to help this man, what will happen to me?' But then the Good Samaritan came by, and he reversed the question: 'If I do not stop to help this man, what will happen to him?'"

WHAT do you notice? How does "not helping" change the wounded one? How does "not helping or noticing" suffering change my/your heart?

● **LISTEN** To RICHARD ROHR's SERMON on The Good Samaritan

<https://cac.org/podcasts/the-good-samaritan/>

● **Listen** to a fun song about the parable <https://youtu.be/LG00GnMG3fw>

● **USE THE ART** in the slide show and in the hand out and website below to mediate on the story.

https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/slides/Cx_Proper10.pdf

<https://globalworship.tumblr.com/post/147365867225/the-good-samaritan-parable-in-global-art-set-1>



*Good Samaritan
Hanna Varghese*

Martin Luther King Jr. “ I’ve been to the Mountain Top “ Speech April 3, 1968

Now, let me say as I move to my conclusion that we’ve got to give ourselves to this struggle until the end. Nothing would be more tragic than to stop at this point, in Memphis. We’ve got to see it through. And when we have our march, you need to be there. Be concerned about your brother. You may not be on strike. But either we go up together, or we go down together.

Let us develop a kind of dangerous unselfishness. One day a man came to Jesus; and he wanted to raise some questions about some vital matters in life. At points, he wanted to trick Jesus, and show him that he knew a little more than Jesus knew, and through this, throw him off base. Now that question could have easily ended up in a philosophical and theological debate. But Jesus immediately pulled that question from mid-air, and placed it on a dangerous curve between Jerusalem and Jericho. And he talked about a certain man, who fell among thieves. You remember that a Levite and a priest passed by on the other side. They didn’t stop to help him. And finally a man of another race came by. He got down from his beast, decided not to be compassionate by proxy. But with him, administered first aid, and helped the man in need. Jesus ended up saying, this was the good man, because he had the capacity to project the “I” into the “thou,” and to be concerned about his brother.

Now you know, we use our imagination a great deal to try to determine why the priest and the Levite didn’t stop. At times we say they were busy going to church meetings—an ecclesiastical gathering—and they had to get on down to Jerusalem so they wouldn’t be late for their meeting. At other times we would speculate that there was a religious law that “One who was engaged in religious ceremonials was not to touch a human body twenty-four hours before the ceremony.” And every now and then we begin to wonder whether maybe they were not going down to Jerusalem, or down to Jericho, rather to organize a “Jericho Road Improvement Association.” That’s a possibility. Maybe they felt that it was better to deal with the problem from the casual root, rather than to get bogged down with an individual effort.

But I’m going to tell you what my imagination tells me. It’s possible that these men were afraid. You see, the Jericho road is a dangerous road. I remember when Mrs. King and I were first in Jerusalem. We rented a car and drove from Jerusalem down to Jericho. And as soon as we got on that road, I said to my wife, “I can see why Jesus used this as a setting for his parable.” It’s a winding, meandering road. It’s really conducive for ambushing. You start out in Jerusalem, which is about 1200 miles, or rather 1200 feet above sea level. And by the time you get down to Jericho, fifteen or twenty minutes later, you’re about 2200 feet below sea level. That’s a dangerous road. In the day of Jesus it came to be known as the “Bloody Pass.”

And you know, it’s possible that the priest and the Levite looked over that man on the ground and wondered if the robbers were still around. Or it’s possible that they felt that the man on the ground was merely faking. And he was acting like he had been robbed and hurt, in order to seize them over there, lure them there for quick and easy seizure. And so the first question that the Levite asked was, “If I stop to help this man, what will happen to me?” But then the Good Samaritan came by. And he reversed the question: “If I do not stop to help this man, what will happen to him?”

That’s the question before you tonight. Not, “If I stop to help the sanitation workers, what will happen to all of the hours that I usually spend in my office every day and every week as a pastor?” The question is not, “If I stop to help this man in need, what will happen to me?” “If I do not stop to help the sanitation workers, what will happen to them?” That’s the question.

Let us rise up tonight with a greater readiness. Let us stand with a greater determination. And let us move on in these powerful days, these days of challenge to make America what it ought to be. We have an opportunity to make America a better nation. And I want to thank God, once more, for allowing me to be here with you

<https://www.cnn.com/2018/04/04/us/martin-luther-king-jr-mountaintop-speech-trnd/index.html>

LISTEN TO THE SPEECH <https://youtu.be/DKWCxKq0i1k>

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PRACTICE :

Take time to notice when you need care and **PRACTICE ASKING FOR HELP.**

Take time to notice people who need care... who are hurting, sick, lonely, or in need. What can you do simply right now?

***The GIFT OF JUSTICE:**

FIVE MINUTE PRACTICE Look up where the closest jail and/or prison is in your community. Start praying for the people in prison to have hope. Pray for love and peace to fill their lives. Pray for justice, compassion and kindness to fill those buildings. Pray for chaplains who serve there. Pray for Christian leaders among the prisoners: that they may bring Christ's hope to their fellow inmates. Pray for those in prison every day this week.

15 MINUTE PRACTICE

Take 15 minutes and look up social enterprises in your community. Choose three ways you can support them. Pray for them each day. If possible, go visit them and learn about what they do. Purchase their products or give to their organization.

Examples: Thistle Farms: <https://thistlefarms.org/>, Cookie Cart: <https://cookiecart.org>, Homeboy Industries: <https://homeboyindustries.org>, or The Firehouse Community Arts Center: <https://thefcac.org/about/>

GOING DEEPER:

PRAY AROUND YOUR CITY: Make a prayer pilgrimage around your city. Pray for places that need to experience the love, peace, and healing of Jesus. Places in need of justice. You can do this by looking at a city map. You can do a Prayer Pilgrimage by driving, walking or biking around your city, or by taking public transportation. Periodically, stop and take time to notice places where injustices are happening. Politely ask questions of those who work at the local shops, or are waiting for the bus, or tending their yards (understand that not everyone will be receptive to being asked questions). Pause and silently pray for that neighborhood. You are on a mission to learn about issues of injustice in your area, so see where God shows up for you on your pilgrimage.

*Excepted from ***The Gift of a Sacred Summer Kit ...downloadable at freerangeworship.com***



Good Samaritan
By Dominicus Gent 2016

CLOSING PRAYER

LORD

Give us Grace Today,

To Love as You Love.

Help us to Love with Extravagance.

Give us Hope today for ourselves and others.

Heal our hurts and our hearts today

So we can serve and help those around us.

Help us to know that you are enough.

And help us live today and everyday in Thankfulness.

For all you've done, and for all you bless us with.

In the Name of the Father, The Son and the Holy Spirit.

AMEN.

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JUSTICE

