

# Caring Opportunities

*Luke 10: 36-37, "Which now of the three thinketh thou was neighbor unto him that fell among thieves?" And he said "He that showed mercy on him." Then said Jesus unto him, "Go and do thou likewise."*

In Luke, Chapter 10, we see how men with many religious credentials did not know how to care for someone who was hurting. This picture can be seen today. Yes, there are people who reach out to help those in need. There are also those just like the Levite priest who would pass by on the other side. Churches have people just like that. They also have people like the Samaritan who went out of his way to offer aid. This man saw something that touched his heart. He felt compassion for the one hurt.

In today's world, we may only see our schedules and plans, or what others may need. Life presents opportunities to help those who are discouraged or struggling with a family matter; yet, these opportunities allow us to help or look the other way. Many today look the other way. Could that be the level of compassion they possess?

In the story in Luke 10, the Samaritan saw something that moved him to action. Yes, it cost him time and money. However, the one hurting needed someone to help. The same thing happens today, just on a larger scale. Sometimes people complain as a way to get stuff for themselves instead of caring for someone else. Yes, the Samaritan shared what he had. He went outside his scheduled plan to aid another. So the question for today is...Is compassion in your heart? If someone asked you about Jesus, could you tell them? We all need to see the need around us. We need to open our heart to help. If we can't, maybe we are the ones who need Jesus's help.

by Rev. Mike Holman