



How Would the Good Samaritan Respond?

For the last several months I've been challenged by the Parable of the Good Samaritan.

This passage (**see Luke 10:25-37 below**) also motivated me in my work with JFA. Many people I talk with desire to limit who they are "responsible" for and most people struggle with how to help the unborn, even when they manage to remember that thousands of them each day are "left for dead". The parallels are not perfect but I think that this passage can help each of us think more clearly about our motives. It may even propel us to be more proactive and more prepared to stop injustice and to serve the defenseless.

The Parable of the Good Samaritan...²⁵On 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?" ²⁷He 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'; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" ²⁸"You have answered correctly," Jesus replied. "Do this and you will live." ²⁹But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" ³⁰In reply Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he fell into the hands of robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. ³¹A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. ³²So 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. ³⁴He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, took him to an inn and took care of him. ³⁵The next day he took out two silver coins 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?" ³⁷The expert in the law replied, "The one who had mercy on him." Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise."

I thought about only giving you my ideas about this parable but I don't want to deprive you of the learning process I had while wrestling with the story and considering the potential implications for my life with relation to abortion or any other injustice.

Below are three questions to consider. I'd love for you to send me your answers through regular mail or email so that I can be along for the ride as you process. On the back are some conclusions I have drawn but please take a while to ponder these questions before reading my conclusions.

1. Who are all the people that are "hurting" or "left for dead" when it comes to abortion?
2. What are the main action steps we can take from this passage as we seek to help in the midst of any injustice, including abortion?
3. What are other thoughts from the passage that you have and what are some challenges that arise as you consider trying to live out potential action steps.

What if we saw unborn babies as our neighbors?

Three main parallels I draw from the Parable of the Good Samaritan:

- See verses 31-33 → 1. Don't ignore the injustice of abortion.
- Acknowledge what abortion is and where it occurs.
 - **Frequently converse with people who may be abortion vulnerable or are connected to people who are.**
 - Learn where the abortion clinics are and be aware of leaders who seek to increase access to abortion.
 - Study enough to be effective but don't let research deter you from action.

- See verses 33-35 → 2. Do what is within your power.
- Pray for wisdom and courage to take action steps.
 - Be honest, attentive, and gracious. People will seek you out instead of fleeing from you during a crisis. **Everyone who is in a crisis pregnancy situation or is ashamed or scared will turn to someone—will they turn to you?**
 - Bring the subject of pregnancy up with your peers before it is a crisis. Whether you are a parent whose peers may be pressuring kids to abort or a student whose peers may be in the midst of a crisis pregnancy, be prepared to help before the crisis.
 - Bring up the topic with care and humility. There is a great chance to help clarify the important issues and bring out the truth well before a hasty decision or crisis could cloud people's thinking.

- See verses 34-35 → 3. Bring along others to partner with when your influence, knowledge, or resources are limited.
- Find where your local pregnancy resource centers are.
 - Bring all those in crisis pregnancy to these help centers and make sure the connection goes smoothly.
 - **Find out what your church is willing to do to help—before a crisis comes up.**
 - Learn to train others to talk about abortion graciously.



Stephen Wagner has spoken to thousands of students about defending the unborn, has had thousands of conversations about abortion with college students, and wrote a book on the subject.

Amanda Coles, with brochure, has talked with hundreds of people about abortion. One girl emailed her to get help with a crisis pregnancy and Amanda helped her find resources and the baby was saved! See her video that documents this story on our website at: www.jfaweb.org/HOW.html (bottom of web page)



Anne Wunder (in blue) is just one counselor from the growing number of pregnancy resource

centers we partner with across the country.

Prayers and Praises for March 2011

- We presented four times to a total of 200 in Georgia and gained new training partners for future years!
- Prayer for safety as part of our team travel to San Antonio, Denver, and Fresno over the next few months.
- **We just added a staff member and are praying for a few others to commit to the support raising process and our mission.**

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Defending Human Value together,

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