



## KNOW WHAT:

- Today is the third week we are discovering more about the stories Jesus told, normally called parables. Last week we looked at the Lost Son, this week it's the Good Samaritan.
- A parable is an earthly story with a heavenly truth.
- Today's parable can be found in Luke 10: 25-37.
- A clever man, who knew God's laws 'inside out' knew he had to love God and his neighbour, but he wasn't sure who his neighbour really was.
- Jesus told the story to answer his question, showing that truly loving someone meant going out of your way to help, regardless of who they are – so really, anyone can be your 'neighbour'.
- The story was about a man who was hurt, but for various reasons no one helped him. In the end, a Samaritan – who were usually looked down on by God's people – helped him. This showed true love.

## SO WHAT:

- We should see everyone as our 'neighbour', and love them just as God does.
- We should look for ways to show God's love in our schools, church, homes, community and around the world.

## NOW WHAT:

- Let us try to be like the Good Samaritan and help those in need.
- Let us look for opportunities to love God and show God's love to others.

## BEN'S BLOG:

I wonder, do we care less today, than yesterday?

I have memories of 25 years ago when my mother would announce she was going to the shops, and my brother and I knew exactly what that meant. We would have to go round to the elderly lady next door and ask her if she needed anything. She'd produce a list, give us some money and we'd take her shopping round later that evening and give her any change.

Nowadays, it feels like a distant memory. We know that elderly people live close to us, but Social Services, carers, or internet shopping means whilst we might have a concern, we don't really care – not in a 'front line' kind of a way.

Today's story is a reminder that it is the call of the Christian to show neighbourly love to all in need. It might be thankless, costly and even countercultural, but it's one way that we show our love for God; through our love for others.

The issue, as ever, is cost. Can we afford the time, expense, and emotional investment in our community's vulnerable people? Let's this week consider how we might be able to be a Good Samaritan, not counting the cost, but genuinely trying to live out the call of a disciple for those around us.