

**Justice for the Neighbor:
Learning from the Good Samaritan**

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Luke 10:25-37.

ALARMi
African Leadership
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WHO ARE THE CHARCTERS IN THE STORY?

- **A lawyer (v.25)**
- **The Teacher (25)**
- **A traveler (30)**
- **Robbers/Thieves (30)**
- **A priest (31)**
- **A Levite (32)**
- **A Samaritan (33-35)**
- **A donkey (34b)**
- **An innkeeper (35-35)**

How do these characters perceive the wounded?

- **The Lawyer: a topic for discussion**
- **Jesus: a life learning experience**
- **The robbers: an opportunity for exploitation**
- **The Priest: a problem to avoid**
- **The Levite: a problem to ignore**
- **The Samaritan: a life worthy saving**
- **The donkey: a burden to share**
- **The innkeeper: a business opportunity**

The Response to the Wounded

- **The Robbers Response: We will take your dignity away**
 - Stripped him of his cloth, beat him, left him half dead
- **The Priest & Levite Response: You are of a different tribe/race, you are impure to care for (they saw the man and passed by on the other side)**
- **The Samaritan: Your life matters & worthy to save (he saw the man and had pity/mercy/compassion on him)**
- **The Donkey: I am willing to share the burden, I am an extension of my master's hand, shoulders, and back.**
- **The innkeeper: I will make profit out of your misery**

Mercy compels us to do justice/to act justly

- **He went to him: he did not ignore him, he acknowledge his humanity**
- **He bandaged his wounds: he accepted to be dirty and messy**
- **He poured oil and wine on him: He gave his provision**
- **He put him on his own donkey: He gave him priority over self**
- **He took him to an inn: He cared for his safety at his own cost**
- **He took care of him: He did not hire someone else**
- **He spend a night with him: He gave him priority of his business**
- **He made a deposit for his care: He invested in his longtime care**
- **He committed to return: He promised to complete the project**

Three Realities About Our World

- There are voyageurs and travelers**
- There are robbers of all kinds on the road.**
- There are all kinds of responders (priests, Levites, Samaritans, donkeys, innkeepers).**

What is our Response to victims of Injustice?

- **Isalah 58: 6-7**: Loose the chain of injustice, set the oppressed free, share food with the hungry, provide shelter to the wonderer/refugee, cloth the naked, not to turn away from your own flesh and bllood.
- **Micah 6:8**: Do justice, Love mercy, walk humbly before God
- **Matthew 23:23**: Important matters of the law: justice, mercy, and faithfulness (**Matthew 25 :34-36**)
- **James 1: 27**: Religion that God our Father honors:
 - To care for widows and orphans in their distress
 - To keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

6 Lessons from the Good Samaritans: What we do when we engage in justice for the neighbor

- 1. We get ourselves in dirty and dangerous mission**
- 2. We get ourselves In a costly and expensive mission**
- 3. We must be willing to change and rearrange our plans and priorities (we cannot remain the same after we encounter injustice)**
- 4. We aim at healing and restoring people's dignity (stripped away by robbers of all kinds)**
- 5. We unconditionally and willingly invest in the future of others**
- 6. We commit to a long-term journey towards complete recovery and sustainability. Microwave solutions don't help because beaten up and stripped people take time to heal.**

