

The Parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37) Revisiting PCCO's vision and goals

Information: Linkage of the Passage to PCCO's vision and mission

Compare Luke 10:27 to Matt 22:37-39 to uncover the relationship with one of PCCO's mission scripture, see <http://www.pccoakland.org/docs/churchDoc/2010PCCOMission&Goals.htm>

Keep the followings in mind during the study:

PCCO's Vision 我们的异象: 1. Deeper Faith 更深切的信心, 2. Stronger Community 更健壮的群体, 3. Greater Impact 更广大的影响

2010 Primary Focus 2010 年主题: Stronger Community 更健壮的群体

Stronger Community Goals 更健壮的群体目标:

A. 95% of all believers joyfully and effectively serving in one to two ministries, 95% 教会成员可以喜乐地,有效地参与教会一到两项服侍 (currently 71%)

B. 25* total healthy (praying, serving, loving, multiplying) small groups 25 个健康的(代祷,服侍,相爱,倍增)细胞小组; 100% believer belong to a small group 100% 教会成员都属于一个小组

*25 total = 19 Mandarin cell groups (currently 13) + 6 OIF small groups (currently 3)

Information: Background of the Parable (Luke 10:25-29)

A lawyer (an expert of Mosaic Law) tested Jesus with a question on eternal life (v25). Instead of answering, Jesus asked the expert what the Mosaic Law taught (v26). The lawyer cited Deut. 6:5 and Lev 19:18, which are the same two commandments that Jesus quoted in Matt. 22:37-39. Seemingly approving, Jesus replied in v28, "You have answered correctly; do this and you will live." The lawyer surprisingly became defensive wishing to justify himself in the next verse, 29. As an expert of Mosaic Law, the lawyer immediately recognized that the 2nd half of Jesus' reply in v. 28 'do this and you will live' was a direct paraphrase of Lev 18:5, "Keep my decrees and laws, for the man who obeys them will live by them." It was plainly clear to the lawyer that Jesus was asking him to **keep** and **obey** the 2 commandments ('loving God' and 'loving man'). He felt rebuffed and threatened, therefore, he had to defend himself. His defense was a rhetoric question, that is, he was expecting the well understood context of "neighbor" from Lev 19 (fellow Jews and relatives) would prove that he had obeyed the commandments. But Jesus had a different idea.

Bible Study (45 min): the Parable (Luke 10:30-37)

A Bible Study has three phases. The first phase is to find out what the passage says. This is brought out by asking discovery questions. The second phase is to understand what the

passage means in its historic, cultural and geographic setting. This is done through interpretive questions. The third and most important phase is to draw conclusions of the passage and apply the lessons personally. This is done by application questions.

Discovery Questions (5 min)

1. Where did the incident happen? (v30. Note: Jerusalem and Jericho were in Judea, the region of the Palestine that Jews lived during Jesus' time. The road between these 2 cities was dangerous and full of robberies.)
2. Who were involved? (vv30-33, 35)
3. What happened to the traveler? (vv30-35)
4. Who was the neighbor to the traveler? (v37)

Interpretative Questions (15 min)

1. Why did the lawyer referred to the Samaritan indirectly by his deeds? Why wouldn't the lawyer mention the Samaritan directly? (John 4:9) So, what was the relationship between Jews and Samaritans? (They didn't like each other; they were enemies.)
2. What risks did the Samaritan take when he came to the aid of the half-dead man? (He was in a land of people who didn't like Samaritans and on a dangerous stretch of road. He could be robbed himself and he could be mistaken to be the perpetrator of the crime.)
3. In addition to the risks, what additional price the Samaritan paid in order to help the man? (Getting dirty and using his wine and oil to bandage up the wounds; giving up his donkey to transport the man to town; delaying his personal business agenda by a day to nurse the man; leaving 2 denarii, which was 2-day of wage, with the innkeeper to continue the care and promising to repay the innkeeper for any cost overrun; leaving to take care of his own business the next morning)
4. What got him to complete the impromptu mercy ministry and his primarily purpose of the trip? (Compassion for the man in distress, and clear commitment and priority/focus)

Application Questions (25 min)

1. What **personal** lessons have you drawn from the parable? (Examples: live our redeemed life in Christ passionately; have compassion for the lost and the needy; get involved but be focused; ask for help when necessary)
2. What role are you playing regarding to PCCO's 2010 vision focus and goals? Are you like the Samaritan and the innkeeper? Or are you like the priest and the Levite?
3. Have you taken on too much ministries? Do you need the help of the innkeeper? If so let your cell group leader know.
4. Are you preoccupied with personal comfort, convenience and ambition? How can we pray for you and help you?