



## Who Is My Neighbor?

**Welcome to worship with NewDay!**

**Focus your heart with a prayer of David from Psalm 86**

*Teach me your way, LORD,  
give me an undivided heart,  
I will praise you, Lord my God, with all my heart;  
For great is your love toward me;*

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### **Galatians 5**

*1 Christ has set us free for freedom. Therefore, stand firm and don't submit to the bondage of slavery again.*

*13 You were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only don't let this freedom be an opportunity to indulge your selfish impulses, but serve each other through love. 14 All the Law has been fulfilled in a single statement: Love your neighbor as yourself. 15 But if you bite and devour each other, be careful that you don't get eaten up by each other!*

*16 I say be guided by the Spirit and you won't carry out your selfish desires.*

*22 the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against things like this. 24 Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the self with its passions and its desires.*

### **Unison Prayer**

*Jesus, you called us to freedom, all of us who are now brothers and sisters in you; we won't let this freedom be an opportunity to indulge our selfish impulses, but to serve each other through love. All the Law has been fulfilled by your single statement: Love your neighbor as yourself. Lord, we pray that your spirit would guide us. Help us to harvest the fruit of your Spirit and not the fruit of selfish desires. We ask for your wisdom to see our neighbors through the eyes of your spirit, and to treat our neighbors with the truth and love of your spirit. Amen.*

### **Luke 10:25-37**

*25 A legal expert stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to gain eternal life?"*

*26 Jesus replied, "What is written in the Law? How do you interpret it?"*

*27 He responded, "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your being, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and love your neighbor as yourself." [a]*

*28 Jesus said to him, "You have answered correctly. Do this and you will live."*



*29 But the legal expert wanted to prove that he was right, so he said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"*

*30 Jesus replied, "A man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho. He encountered thieves, who stripped him naked, beat him up, and left him near death. 31 Now it just so happened that a priest was also going down the same road. When he saw the injured man, he crossed over to the other side of the road and went on his way. 32 Likewise, a Levite came by that spot, saw the injured man, and crossed over to the other side of the road and went on his way. 33 A Samaritan, who was on a journey, came to where the man was. But when he saw him, he was moved with compassion. 34 The Samaritan went to him and bandaged his wounds, tending them with oil and wine. Then he placed the wounded man on his own donkey, took him to an inn, and took care of him. 35 The next day, he took two full days' worth of wages and gave them to the innkeeper. He said, 'Take care of him, and when I return, I will pay you back for any additional costs.' 36 What do you think? Which one of these three was a neighbor to the man who encountered thieves?"*

*37 Then the legal expert said, "The one who demonstrated mercy toward him."*

*Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise."*

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*Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves and ensure justice for those crushed.*

*Proverbs 31:8-9 NLT*

**God's command to 'love your neighbor' extends even to loving enemies. How can we train ourselves to love our enemies?**

**NOTES**

1. Recognize when our brains are \_\_\_\_\_
  
2. Immerse ourselves in \_\_\_\_\_
  
3. Spend time with \_\_\_\_\_
  
4. Engage with our \_\_\_\_\_
  
5. Advocate for \_\_\_\_\_ – including \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*On the one hand, we are called to play the Good Samaritan on life's roadside, but that will be only an initial act. One day we must come to see that the whole Jericho Road must be transformed so that men and women will not be constantly beaten and robbed as they make their journey on life's highway.*

*-REV. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR*

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...a community that has a passion to serve others.  
...a community that longs for deeper life relationships with God and others.  
...passionate about investing in children, youth, and families.  
...a people who have a desire to be led by and experience the power of the Holy Spirit in everyday life.

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