

Stop Drop and Roll
March 4, 2018

Luke 10:25-37...

God even answers our dumb questions....

- ◆ What must I do to inherit eternal life?
 - Jesus replies, What is written... literally means can you read?
 - Worldview.... Love God and love people... live life at the intersection
 - He got it in his head but his heart and hands didn't weren't connected.... Who is my neighbor?
- ◆ Good Samaritan
- ◆ Half dead, beat up.... Opens his one good eye that is left... Is it another thief, a rival gang member... oh it is a priest.... The pastor

1. The Priest.... goes to the other side

- ◆ On his religious list of things that make God happy he failed.
- ◆ He had appointments to keep with religious people
- ◆ Has Church business to attend to
- ◆ MAYBE it was this guy's fault, he shouldn't have been traveling here, he is a rival gang member, he deserved it.
- ◆ What if I am helping a bad guy
- ◆ **He went out of his way to avoid doing the right thing**
- ◆ **Syrian Refuges, Black Lives Matter, Shootings in New Orleans, 52% unemployment....**
- ◆ **Isn't it like God to put people where you can't help but see them.... Work, school, neighbors God puts them in your path**
- ◆ **HATE IS EASY; LOVE TAKES COURAGE**

2. The Levite.... Goes to the other side

- ◆ God's law says he can't touch a dead person... Good rule, don't touch dead people
- ◆ If he touches him he will be contaminated for 7 days and he won't be able to do his job, his church job
- ◆ Maybe just maybe, we are so busy doing so many things that it is really easy for us to turn into Levites and walk right past the people who are around us
- ◆ Proactive in connecting with my neighbors...
- ◆ Proactive in being with people not just reactive
- ◆ Reactive... it is easy to blow people off
- ◆ Need to me intentional in my understanding what God desires
- ◆ **HATE IS EASY; LOVE TAKES COURAGE**

3. The Samaritan...

- ◆ Remember the story is for the church people, the priests and Levites, doubt there were any Samaritans hanging out there
 - You religious people think you are loving God well, you aren't
 - Pagans are doing a better job
 - The hatred is thick
 - This LA in 50's and a white man lying in the ditch and an African American stopping.... This is a Black Lives Matter protester helping a white Supremacist shooter.... Catholic and Protestant in Northern Ireland... Palestinian Christian helping a Jew
- ◆ Compassion = Splachna – comes from the gut.... Deep innermost feeling
- ◆ ***"A deep feeling of sharing in the suffering of another and the desire to relieve that suffering" Jerry Bridges***

- ◆ Luke 1:40-41: A man with leprosy came to Jesus and begged him on his knees, if you are willing, please, you can make me clean. Filled with compassion, Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. Immediately, the leprosy left him, and he was cured”
- ◆ He helped him.... Bandaged his wounds, took him to the inn, gave 2 weeks wages.... Said he would come back
- ◆ Helped, he didn't drop everything, not all his time, not all his money..... WHEN I COME BACK
- ◆ Now go and do likewise
- ◆ God wants to answer a need through you...
- ◆ **HATE IS EASY; LOVE TAKES COURAGE**

1. Stop

- ◆ Stop passing by people who are hurting
- ◆ Stop living this crazy American dream long enough to get engaged in your neighbors, co-workers, fellow students' lives
- ◆ Stop pretending that you don't see people in need
- ◆ Stop pretending that it is their fault
- ◆ Stop viewing all charity as toxic Luke 5:42ff
- ◆ **HATE IS EASY; LOVE TAKES COURAGE**

2. Drop

- ◆ Drop off your donkey
- ◆ The good Samaritan had to get off his donkey
- ◆ If you are a disciple of Christ, one of God's children through faith... you have to get off your high horse and serve people
- ◆ **HATE IS EASY; LOVE TAKES COURAGE**

3. Roll

- ◆ Roll up your sleeves
- ◆ Roll out some time
- ◆ Roll out some cash
- ◆ Gave oil, wine, bandages (some of his clothes torn up) 2 weeks wages....
- ◆ Came back... he circled back
- ◆ We all have something to give... reach into your heart and start giving
- ◆ **HATE IS EASY; LOVE TAKES COURAGE**

Conclusion

- ◆ Matthew 25:31-40 The impression was it was natural to do it....
- ◆ Good theology leads to good works
- ◆ Don't feel guilty about your blessings.... Share them
- ◆ Make money so you can share money...
- ◆ “The worst sin we can commit toward our fellow creatures is not to hate them- but to be indifferent toward them.” George Bernard Shaw
- ◆ Roman Emperor Hadrian said of 1st Century Christians – “See how they love one another. They never fail to help widows – they save orphans from those who would hurt them. If they have something, they give freely to those who have nothing. If they see a stranger, they take him home – as though he were a brother.”