



Sermon Notes – Steve Southards – 11/19/2023

1 John 3:18

Dear children, let's not merely say that we love each other; let us show the truth by our actions.

Godly love is more than a feeling...it demands action.

Luke 10: 25-29

One day an expert in religious law stood up to test Jesus by asking him this question: "Teacher, what should I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus replied, "What does the law of Moses say? How do you read it?" The man answered, "'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your strength, and all your mind.' And, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" "Right!" Jesus told him. "Do this and you will live!" The man wanted to justify his actions, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

Luke 10:30

Jesus replied with a story: "A Jewish man was traveling from Jerusalem down to Jericho, and he was attacked by bandits. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him up, and left him half dead beside the road."

Luke 10:31

"By chance a priest came along. But when he saw the man lying there, he crossed to the other side of the road and passed him by."

Luke 10:32

"A Temple assistant walked over and looked at him lying there, but he also passed by on the other side."

The opportunity to love others well rarely comes at convenient times.

Luke 10:33

"Then a despised Samaritan came along, and when he saw the man, he felt compassion for him."

Luke 10:34

"Going over to him, the Samaritan soothed his wounds with olive oil and wine and bandaged them. Then he put the man on his own donkey and took him to an inn, where he took care of him."

Luke 10:35-37

“The next day he handed the innkeeper two silver coins, telling him, ‘Take care of this man. If his bill runs higher than this, I’ll pay you the next time I’m here.’ “Now which of these three would you say was a neighbor to the man who was attacked by bandits?” Jesus asked. The man replied, “The one who showed him mercy.” Then Jesus said, “Yes, now go and do the same.”

Loving well requires seeing the person not as a project.

I- Thou relationships vs I-It relationships.

Is my heart for others increasing or decreasing?

Do for your neighbors what you wish you could do for everyone.

Bob Frie

The majority of the issues that our community is facing would be eliminated or drastically reduced if we could just figure out a way to become a community of great neighbors.”

Know them by name.

Pray for them specifically.

1 Timothy 2:1

I urge you, first of all, to pray for all people. Ask God to help them; intercede on their behalf, and give thanks for them.

Bless them individually.

Mother Teresa

I never look at the masses as my responsibility. I look only at the individual. I can love only one person at a time. I can feed only one person at a time. Just one, one, one. You get closer to Christ by coming closer to each other. As Jesus said “Whatever you do to the least of my brethren, you do it to me.” So you begin...I begin. I picked up one personThe whole work is only a drop in the ocean. But if we don’t put the drop in, the ocean would be one drop less. Same thing for you. Same thing in your family. Same thing in the church where you go. Just begin ... one, one, one! At the end of our lives, we will not be judged by how many diplomas we have received, how much money we have made or how many great things we have done. We will be judged by “I was hungry and you gave me something to eat. I was naked and you clothed me. I was homeless and you took me in.”