

STORY 9: LOVE

On one occasion, Jesus was talking to a man about love, and he told the man about how we should “love our neighbor like we love ourselves.” But the man asked, “So... just who is my ‘neighbor?’” So Jesus told him this story:

“There once was a man who was travelling from Jerusalem to Jericho. On the way, he was attacked by robbers. They took his clothes, beat him up, and left him for dead.

“Luckily, a priest happened to be travelling down that same road a little later. But when he saw the man who had been beaten up, he walked on by on the other side of the road.

“Later, another worker in the temple came down the road, and he too passed by the man.

“After that, a man from a despised area came travelling along. When he saw the man, he felt sorry for him and went over to him. He did what he could to disinfect and bandage the man’s wounds, and he lifted him up on his donkey and took him to the nearest inn. At the inn, he took care of this man and stayed with him through the night.

“The next day, he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, ‘Take good care of him. If it costs any more, put it on my bill—I’ll pay you on my way back.’”

Then Jesus asked the man, “Which one of these three do you think became a neighbor to the one who was attacked and robbed?”

“The one who treated him kindly,” said the man.

So Jesus told him, “Go, and do the same!”

STORY 9: LOVE

- **review:** re-tell the story

- **dialogue:** discuss the story
 - What do you like or not like about this story?

 - Why do you think Jesus told this story?

 - In John 13:34-35, Jesus says that the world will know we are Christians by our love. How does that relate to this story?

 - What can we learn about God from this story?

- **application:** live the story
 - Why don't we always love our neighbors well?

 - If we were to love without abandon, what would our lives look like?

 - What is one action you can take to apply this story to your life?

- **notes:**