

C3 LEADERS' QUESTIONS
F2022-WEEK 7
10/16/22

Getting Started with a Warm-Up:

- *“Good Samaritan speaks out after rescuing Hawaii Island teen from alleged abductor”*

Hartman is now being called the Hilo hero for his fast thinking that helped save missing teenager Mikella DeBina. “It feels really weird to be called a hero. I just did what I would hope anyone would do for my sister or my cousin,” Hartman said.

It was a slow start to Hartman’s shift Saturday at Café Pesto when suddenly the Hilo restaurant turned into the focus of a missing teen investigation. “My first thought was that they’re father and daughter. What was scary is he was super polite and I didn’t realize like I had no clue,” said Hartman. Disguised in a mask and baggy clothes right in front of him was DeBina with her alleged captor, Duncan Mahi. When the 15-year-old started to struggle with the man, that’s when the restaurant host said it all clicked. “All I remember is yelling who she was and telling the people that were like close to them to stop him. As I’m saying that, I like grabbed her just as quickly,” Hartman said.

Thanks to Hartman and other Good Samaritans’ swift action, Mikella’s family is able to hold her once again. Hawaii County Mayor Mitch Roth can’t express how proud he is of Hartman and the others that helped. “Mahalo, mahalo, mahalo,” said Roth. “That’s just so amazing and I’m so grateful and I would say the whole state is just so appreciative for what our Good Samaritans did.”

The community even launched a Venmo campaign to show their appreciation for Hartman’s heroic efforts. “That’s insane, insane, insane and I’m speechless. I’ve been trying to stay away from social media, but it’s life-changing. I’m not going to lie,” said Hartman. Hartman said in times like these, the Big Island becomes the big small island and the community always rallies together. “I’m incredibly proud of our ability to come together and save this girl’s life,” Hartman said.

(Khon2 News, 10/8/2016, accessed

<https://www.khon2.com/local-news/good-samaritan-speaks-out-after-rescuing-hawaii-island-teen-from-alleged-abductor/>)

Have you ever acted as a Good Samaritan? Or have observed someone else act as one?

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Getting Down to Business:

The following questions are following this format: Scripture/Observation, Application, and Prayer (SOAP).

1) Scripture/Observation:

- A. Read Luke 10:31-35. From what perspective did the Samaritan observe the man lying on the side of the road? (Hint: He felt a sense of responsibility for someone in obvious need of help.)

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. 32 A Temple assistant walked over and looked at him lying there, but he also passed by on the other side. 33 "Then a despised Samaritan came along, and when he saw the man, he felt compassion for him. 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. 35 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.'

The Commandments of Love and the Parable of the Good Samaritan (10:25-37)

Jesus elicited from an expert in the law the assertion that the two great commandments were to love God and to love one's neighbor. These commandments were at the heart of Jesus' own teaching (Mt 22:34-40; Mk 12:28-34) and were based on Dt 6:5 and Lev 19:18. Obedience to these commandments, said Jesus, leads to eternal life.

To illustrate neighborly love, Jesus told the parable of the Good Samaritan. The road from Jerusalem to Jericho passed through rugged country. But although robbery was a typical incident on that road, it was by no means typical that a Samaritan would rush to the help of a Jew (see comments on 9:51-56).

For a Jewish audience, there was an element of shock in the story. It depicts a reversal of values, a world in which a Samaritan is the hero. But it did much more than unsettle people's values. It provided a positive ideal by which to live. It

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portrayed a vivid example of neighborly love. It demonstrated the meaning of love more vividly than any dictionary definition.

Love of neighbor crosses the boundaries of nation, race, and social class. Anyone in need is our neighbor. By depicting the Samaritan as the example to be followed and the representatives of conventional religion as the examples to be avoided, the parable issues a challenge not only to Jews but to Christians as well. "Let us go and do likewise, regarding every man as our neighbor who needs our assistance. Let us renounce that bigotry and party-zeal which would contract our hearts into an insensibility for all the human race, but a small number whose sentiments and practice are so much our own, that our love to them is but self-love reflected" (Wesley, Notes, 241-42). (Asbury Bible Commentary, accessed 10/13/22,

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=lk+10&version=NLT>)

- B. Read Luke 10:31-35. What was the major motive that caused the Samaritan to care for the man's wounds and future recovery? (Hint: He was motivated by compassion to help another individual in need.) Read Philippians 2:3-4. How is the apostle Paul trying to encourage his readers to live?

3 Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. 4 Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too. (Philippians 2:3-4, NLT)

Living and loving for others (2:1-4)

The theme of unity continues here with particular emphasis on the importance of "unison of thought" (Lightfoot, 108) or quality of mind. Right thinking is crucial to right living (cf. 4:8). The controlling factor is a humble love that enables one to consider the interests of others (v.4). The thrust of the passage is "the concord . . . of a common love" (Lightfoot, 108). (Asbury Bible Commentary, accessed 10/13/22, <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=phil+2&version=NLT>)

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C. Read Luke 10:31-35. To what extent was the Samaritan willing to help this man?

D. At the end of the parable Jesus asked the expert in the law who he thought was the neighbor to the man who was attacked (See Luke 10:36). Who are our neighbors?

2) Application: Read Luke 10:25-29. As a follower of Christ we should all desire to sincerely love others. Discuss with your group the following:

25 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?" 26 Jesus replied, "What does the law of Moses say? How do you read it?" 27 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.'" 28 "Right!" Jesus told him. "Do this and you will live!" 29 The man wanted to justify his actions, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" (Luke 10:25-29, NLT)

- What will help us to see beyond someone's need and compel us to take action to alleviate the need?

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- In the story there is a point when the Samaritan has someone else take action in his place (See Luke 10:35). Describe a circumstance where showing loving compassion means you have another person take action in your place.

- What does investing yourself for the sake of another person look like?

3) Prayer: As you pray, ask God to open your eyes to the needs around you, grow in loving compassion, and be willing to actively invest in meeting those needs.

7 Dear friends, let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is a child of God and knows God. 8 But anyone who does not love does not know God, for God is love. (1 John 4:7–8, NLT)