

But ask: WHY CAN'T I HELP?

“But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion.”

Luke 10:33 ESV

#1 Qualification to Help: COMPASSION

Welcome to



a community loving God and loving people.

Change #3 - My Performance.

He went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he set him on his own animal and brought him to an inn and took care of him. And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, ‘Take care of him, and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.’ ...

And Jesus said to him, “You go, and do likewise.”

Luke 10: 34-35, 37b ESV

Compassion is NOT:

- COMPLEX
- PHILOSOPHICAL
- DEBATING
- DUTY

Compassion IS:

- SIMPLE
- PRACTICAL
- DOING
- LOVE

Change #4: My Perspective.

But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” ... “Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?”

He said, “The one who showed him mercy.”

Luke 10:29, 36-37a ESV

My question is NOT: WHO IS MY NEIGHBOR?

My question IS: WHOSE NEIGHBOR AM I?

We’re So Glad You’re Here!

We plan to celebrate Christ’s love for seventy-five minutes tonight and we hope you’ll sing, pray, laugh and learn along with us. Are you worried about the rules - when to stand, when to sit, what to say? Don’t be! We’ve worked hard to make our time together just like family. So sit back, relax, and enjoy the service. You’re definitely among friends here at Church Requel.

Tonight: Samaritan

We’ll watch a drama about a teenage boy who watches his father and youth leader pass by a hurt man, only to see the man helped by someone he didn’t expect to help him. Then we’ll talk about four changes to put on compassion.

Next Week: Shrewd Manager

We’ll watch an ironic comedy about a dishonest farm manager who is fired and so must think quickly to figure out a way into his next job. You’ll laugh and discover new truths at the same time. How can you be a S.H.R.E.W.D. Christ-follower? Don’t forget to give away your tickets to family and friends.

Info Card

Would you do us the favor of filling out the green Info Card from top to bottom? We will keep you posted on what’s happening at Church Requel. Drop off your card in one of the offering baskets as you exit. Thanks!

White Donation Envelope

We appreciate your worship by giving tithes and offerings to support the ministry of Church Requel. Use the white envelope in your program and drop in one of the offering baskets on your way out.

Prayer Requests and Praises

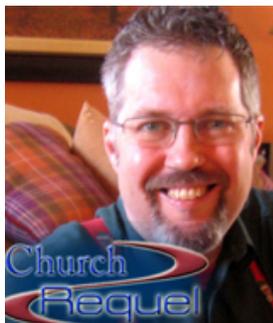
Do you have something you’d like us to pray about? After our communion time, we’d be happy to pray for your need. Fill out the peach prayer request card and drop it on the communion table up front.

Communion Tonight

Tonight we will celebrate communion together. We invite you to participate if you are a Christ-follower. You do not need to be a member of our church. Take the bread and cup back to your seat individually when you’re ready.

Pastor Mark and the Mercy Scale

Have you ever taken one of those Spiritual Gifts multiple choice tests, whose objective tells your spiritual gifts strengths and weaknesses? Both Mary Kay and I did this together about ten years ago. Not surprisingly Mary Kay's greatest gift is her gift of mercy. She oozes compassion with everyone she meets. It's one of the reasons why she is so very good at her job. And it was one of the things that attracted me to her in the beginning. (That and her beautiful long brown hair parted perfectly down the middle!)



And how do I rate on the mercy scale? It ranks the lowest of the 16 gifts in my case. Sad to say it, but I have to work for whatever mercy comes my way. Are you surprised? (Mary Kay isn't!) You're saddled with a pastor without natural mercy gifts. That's the bad news. Want to hear the good news? Most of the time I'm still merciful. Why? Because Colossians 3:12 tells me to "put on mercy." There doesn't seem to be a lot of wiggle room in that verse for me. It doesn't tell me to put on mercy when I feel like it. Or to put on mercy if I'm naturally gifted at being merciful. It simply instructs me, "Put on mercy." I don't always do it well. But I have learned to put on mercy.

Tonight we're going to talk about being a compassionate Christ-follower. For some of you - what I'll call "the naturals," much of tonight's talk may be "Duh, of course!" However, I'm guessing that more people are like me than you'd care to admit. Tonight's sermon is for you. We'll use the Good Samaritan parable as our backdrop to investigate the dress code for putting on a compassionate heart.

With much affection - Pastor Mark

Our Bible Reading for This Evening

²⁹ But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"
³⁰ Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him and departed, leaving him half dead.
³¹ Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. ³² So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³ But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion. ³⁴ He went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he set him on his own animal and brought him to an inn and took care of him. ³⁵ And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take care of him, and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.' ³⁶ Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?" ³⁷ He said, "The one who showed him mercy." And Jesus said to him, "You go, and do likewise."

Luke 10:29-37 ESV



"The Lord was gracious to them and had compassion on them."
2 Kings 13:23 ESV

"When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd."
Matthew 9:36 ESV

"Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts."
Colossians 3:12a ESV

Four Changes to a Compassionate Heart

Change #1 - My Perspective.

View the situation FROM THE DITCH

Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him and departed, leaving him half dead."
Luke 10:30 ESV

Change #2 - My Permission.

Don't answer: WHY I CAN'T HELP.

"Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side."
Luke 10:31-32 ESV