

International Conversation Cafe

New Testament: The Amazing Wisdom and Teachings of Jesus Christ, Luke 10

Jesus Christ was a real historical person who lived in and around Jerusalem in the years of 0-33 AD. The writers of the four gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John tell the story of his life, death, and resurrection. Luke and Paul write about him. The Roman historian, Josephus, also mentions him in his history.

Jesus was an outstanding teacher. A good teacher is noted for three things. First, they understand their students: their likes, dislikes, inclinations, weaknesses and strengths. A good teacher is an expert in their subject area. Jesus was an expert in knowing God: his amazing love, power and wisdom. Thirdly, Jesus was an excellent communicator.

Jesus also knew people: their abilities, weakness, sin, and excuses. Crowds of people came to hear Jesus speak when he walked on the earth. He always spoke with wisdom. Millions have been influenced by his example and words as recorded in the four gospels.

The following definitions will help you understand the story known as, "The Good Samaritan."

Priest- a Jewish man who worked in the temple offering sacrifices to God

Levite- a person from the tribe of Levi chosen to assist priests in the temple

Samaritan- is someone from the country of Samaria. Samaria was an area within Israel. Jews hated Samaritans because they were a mixed race of Jew and Gentile and they had their own **interpretation** of Judaism.

Eternal Life- life with God that goes on forever

Luke 10:25-37 The Good Samaritan

One day an authority on the law stood up to put Jesus to the test. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to receive eternal life?"

"What is written in the Law?" Jesus replied. "How do you understand it?"

He answered, "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul. Love him with all your strength and with all your mind' And, 'Love your neighbor as you love yourself.'"

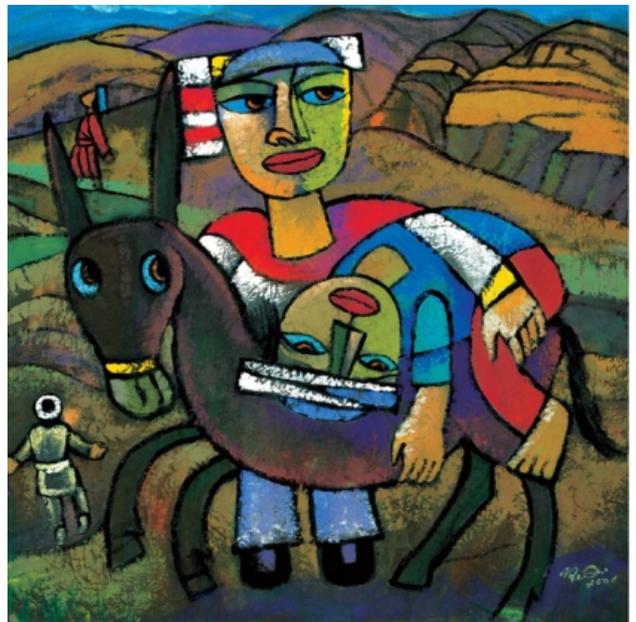
"You have answered correctly," Jesus replied. "Do that, and you will live." But the man wanted to make himself look good. So he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho. Robbers attacked him. They stripped off his clothes and beat him. Then they went away, leaving him almost dead. A priest happened to be going down that same road. When he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. A Levite also came by. When he saw the man, he passed by on the other side too. But a Samaritan came to the place where the man was. When he saw the man, he felt sorry for him. He went to him, poured olive oil and wine on his wounds and bandaged them. Then he put the man on his own donkey. He took him to an inn and took care of him. The next day he took out two silver coins. He gave them to the owner of the inn. 'Take care of him,' he said. 'When I return, I will pay you back for any extra expense you may have.'

"Which of the three do you think was a neighbor to the man who was attacked by robbers?"

The authority on the law replied, "The one who felt sorry for him. Jesus told him, "Go and do as he did."

1. *Retell the story in your own words.*
2. *What questions come to mind?*
3. *Why do you think Jesus told this story?*
4. *What does the story teach about God?*
5. *What does the story teach about people?*
6. *What is the most important lesson of the story?*
7. *How do you think loving God and loving your neighbor relate to each other?*
8. *What do you notice about this painting by Hi Qi? What do you think the artist is trying to say?*
9. *How does this story reveal Jesus' wisdom?*



Hi Qi, The Good Samaritan.
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How does this story change your attitudes about God and people?