

COLOR BLESSED

Week 4 - Color-Blessed Courage

SERMON RECAP:

If you've grown up in church, you may have heard the story of the Good Samaritan. Even if you haven't grown up in church, you've probably heard this term, Good Samaritan, applied when someone goes above and beyond to do a good deed.

The story of the Good Samaritan in the Bible is actually the premier New Testament text on how God heals our racial divide through color-blessed courage.

In the text, Jesus is asked by an expert in the law how one achieves eternal life. The expert in the law already had preconceived notions and was trying to trick Jesus. Instead Jesus turns the question around on him, "Well, what do you think?" When the law expert continues to question Him, Jesus decides to tell a parable—a story used to illustrate a lesson.

In this story, Jesus tells of a Jewish man who was beaten and robbed—left on the side of the road to die. Two Jewish religious leaders see the man, but leave him there, unwilling to help or even acknowledge him. Then a Samaritan, an enemy of the Jews, sees the man and goes above and beyond to care for him. He showed courage by helping someone who probably hated him—and in doing so, helped to close the gap on the racial divide between Jews and Samaritans.

This begs the question, how should we respond to our neighbors—fellow image-bearers—when they are hurting? How can we join Jesus on His mission to heal the racial divide?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Upward

- Read Luke 10:25-28. Why do you think Jesus responded to this man's question with a question?
- What point is Jesus trying to illustrate with the parable of the Good Samaritan?

Inward

- Read Luke 10:29. Why was the law expert trying to justify himself? Do you ever feel that way?
- Read Luke 10:29-37. Who in your life has been a neighbor to you in the same way the Good Samaritan was a neighbor to the Jewish man on the side of the road?

Outward

- Who is your neighbor?
- Who do you have a hard time viewing as your neighbor?
- Pray to God asking Him to help you see all people as He does—a fellow image-bearer and your neighbor.

Soul Tattoo: Every person bears the image of God so give them love, respect, and dignity.

Action Step: Read Luke 10:25-37 every day this week; go and do the same.