

SMALL THINGS MAKE BIG IMPACTS ON PEOPLES LIVES

Luke 10:25-37

- ***What are the biggest day-to-day needs in people's lives?***
- **People need significance, sufficiency, security, satisfaction - and support from others.**
- *"God has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things He planned for us long ago."* (Ephesians 2:10)
- **Christians are to help other people, especially those hurting the most; and Jesus addressed that truth in His *Good Samaritan* story (Luke 10:25-37).**
- ***What are some truths that we learn from Jesus' words about experiencing eternal life and living an impactful life?***

To Live An Impactful Life We Need To:

PASSIONATELY DEMONSTRATE OUR LOVE FOR GOD

- *"Jesus replied, 'What does the law of Moses say? How do you read it?' The man answered, 'You must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your strength, and all your mind.'"* (Luke 10:26-27)
- **Loving the Lord wholeheartedly involves *Focusing our Attention on Him*** *("all your mind")*.
    - **We have to overcome self-centeredness to really focus on the Lord.**
    - Jesus - *"If any of you wants to be My follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross daily, and follow Me."* (Luke 9:23)
    - **We are able to focus on the Lord when we: 1) Commit to a daily time with Him (Matthew 6:5-13), 2) Constantly converse with Him (Psalm 105:4), and 3) Connect regularly with Believers (Hebrews 10:25).**
    - **We get big benefits from focusing our mind on the Lord (Isaiah 26:3).**
- **Loving the Lord wholeheartedly involves *Expressing our Affection to Him*.** *("all your heart and soul")*.
    - **God wants to be loved passionately by us (Exodus 34:14, Hosea 6:6).**

    - **The best way to express affection to God is by giving our life to Him.**
    - *"Give yourselves completely to God since you have been given new life."* (Romans 6:13)
    - **People don't give their lives completely to the Lord because of distrust (Hebrews 11:6), fear (1 John 4:18) and/or pride (James 4:6).**
    - **We won't love God enough until we realize how much God loves us.**
- **Loving the Lord wholeheartedly involves *Using our Abilities for Him*** *("all your strength")*.
    - **Our love for the Lord and for others must be expressed not just with words but with actions and service as well.**
    - *"Make the most of every opportunity for doing good . . . Don't act thoughtlessly, but try to understand what the Lord wants you to do."* (Ephesians 5:16-17)
- Jesus - *"Do this and you will live."* (Luke 10:28)
- ***Why should I love the Lord with all my heart, soul, mind and strength; and what are some things I should be doing to better express my love for Him?***

To Live An Impactful Life We Need To:

COMPASSIONATELY DEMONSTRATE OUR LOVE FOR <u>OTHERS</u>

- *"Jesus replied, 'What does the law of Moses say? How do you read it?' 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.' 'Right!' Jesus told him. 'Do this and you will live!' The man wanted to justify his actions, so he asked Jesus, 'And who is my neighbor?' Jesus replied with a story . . ."* (Luke 10:26-30)
- **We learn from Jesus' story that *Some People Abuse Others*.**
    - Jesus - *"A Jewish man was traveling from Jerusalem down to Jericho, and he was attacked by bandits. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him up, and left him half dead beside the road."* (Luke 10:30)
    - **We live in an evil world with people who are physical, emotional, verbal, financial, vocational and sexual abusers.**
    - **The Devil himself is a thief and abuser (John 10:10), so when we hurt, steal from or take advantage of others we are like the Devil.**
- **We learn from Jesus' story that *Some People Avoid Helping Others*.**
    - *"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. A Temple assistant walked by and saw him lying there, but he also passed by on the other side."* (Luke 10:31-32)
    - **Being religious does not mean that we truly love the Lord or others.**

    - Jesus – *"Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are My disciples."* (John 13:35)
    - **People often avoid helping others because of ignorance, indifference, laziness and self-centeredness.**
    - *"When you're kind to others, you help yourself; when you're cruel to others, you hurt yourself."* (Proverbs 11:17)
    - Jesus – *"Do for others what you would like them to do for you."* (Matthew 7:12)
- **We learn from Jesus' story that *Good People Assist Others*.**
    - *"Then a despised Samaritan came along, and when he saw the man, he felt compassion for him. 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. 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.'"* (Luke 10:33-35)
    - **Although he was from a different ethnic background, the Samaritan in Jesus' story was willing to stop and help the injured man.**
    - **God's people demonstrate their love for others by: 1) Caring about others, 2) Stopping to help others and 3) Being generous to others.**
    - Jesus – *"The King will say to those on His right, . . . I was hungry, and you fed Me. I was thirsty, and you gave Me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited Me into your home. I was naked, and you gave Me clothing. I was sick, and you cared for Me. I was in prison, and you visited Me. When you did it to one of the least of these My brothers and sisters, you were doing it to Me!'* (Matthew 25:34-40)
    - **We are to be constantly focused on helping hurting people, which will bring us accolades from the Lord in this life and the next life.**
- *"'Which of these three would you say was a neighbor to the man who was attacked by bandits' Jesus asked. The man replied, 'The one who showed him mercy.' Then Jesus said, 'Yes, <u>now go and do the same</u>.'"* (Luke 10:36-37)
- ***Would the Lord and others perceive me to be more like the thieves, the religious leaders, or the Good Samaritan?***
- *"Let's not merely say that we love each other; let us show the truth by our actions."* (1 John 3:18)

- *"God . . . will not forget how hard you have worked for Him and how you have shown your love to Him by caring for others."* (Hebrews 6:10)
- ***What are some steps that I need to take to experience "eternal life" and live a more "impactful life"?***