

Beloved sisters and brothers in Christ,

As we journey through life and encounter its many challenges, we are often drawn to reflect on the timeless wisdom that guides our actions and inspires our hearts. Today, I find myself contemplating the profound message from Luke 10:29-37, where Jesus presents the parable of the Good Samaritan in response to the question, "*And who is my neighbor?" His answer, "The one who treated him with mercy*," resounds deeply within us, urging us to embrace compassion as the cornerstone of our faith and humanity.

The parable reminds us that our neighbors are not defined by proximity, status, or shared beliefs but by the boundless act of mercy we extend to one another. It challenges us to look beyond divisions, prejudices, and fears, and to see every person as an opportunity to demonstrate love in action. Just as the Samaritan stopped to care for the wounded man when others passed by, we are called to live with open hearts, ready to serve and uplift those in need.

Life often presents us with moments where we can choose kindness over indifference, grace over judgment, and love over isolation. These are the moments where we embody the teachings of Christ, becoming vessels of hope and healing in a world that longs for connection. The Good Samaritan's actions show us that mercy transcends boundaries—it is a universal language that speaks to the soul and transforms lives.

As you reflect on this parable, may it inspire you to ask not only, "Who is my neighbor?" but also, "How can I be a neighbor?" Whether through small acts of kindness, words of encouragement, or gestures of generosity, know that your mercy has the power to ignite change and bring comfort to those who need it most. Let us strive to live as neighbors to all, embracing the divine call to love as we have been loved.

May this message remind you of your capacity for compassion and renew your spirit with the certainty that every act of mercy reflects the heart of God. Let us walk this path together, hand in hand, carrying His light into the lives of those around us.

With blessings and gratitude,