

First Baptist Church Smiths Falls

July 11, 2021

Preservice Video: July 11 Preservice

Preservice Song: "In Christ Alone"

Call to Worship: Psalms 145:8-9

"The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. 9 The LORD is good to all, and his compassion is over all that he has made.

Greetings: "Good Morning"

We welcome our guests and visitors,

Announcements:

Prayer of Approach:

LIFT UPON US the light of Your countenance, O Lord our God. As You have wakened the sun to shine forth this day to illumine the earth, so, Sun of Righteousness, bring day and brightness to us. May we leave the cares and the troubles and the fears of the week, its burdens and its griefs, behind us; and, weary and fatigued, may we come into Your sanctuary this morning as the children of God into their Father's house. And grant to us this meeting of the soul with You that shall assure us of Your presence and of Your welcome. Bless the reading of Your Word. Bless our endeavours to draw instruction from it. Bless us, we beseech You, in singing, in prayer, in meditation, and in all the rejoicing services of the sanctuary and of the day. We ask it for Christ's sake. Amen.

Hymns & Songs: 1."Indescribable"

2. "All Ye That Pass By"

3. "Nothing But The Blood"

His Tithes, Offerings & Gifts: 1 Corinthians 4:1-2

"Think of us in this way, as servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries. 2 Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy."

Offering Prayer:

ALMIGHTY GOD, whose loving hand has given us all that we possess, grant us grace that we may honour Thee with our substance, and, remembering the account which we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of Thy bounty; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Children's 1. Introduction

2. "Ho. Ho. Ho Hosanna"

3. "Good Samaritan"

4. "I Am A "C""

Scripture Reading: Luke 10:25-37 (NKJV)

25 And behold, a certain lawyer stood up and tested Him, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" 26 He said to him, "What is written in the law? What is your reading of it?" 27 So he answered and said, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind,' and 'your neighbour as yourself.'" 28 And He said to him, "You have answered rightly; do this and you will live." 29 But he, wanting to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbour?" 30 Then Jesus answered and said: "A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, who stripped him of his clothing, wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead. 31 Now by chance a certain priest came down that road. And when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. 32 Likewise a Levite, when he arrived at the place, came and looked, and passed by on the other side. 33 But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was. And when he saw him, he had compassion. 34 So he went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; and he set him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. 35 On the next day, when he departed, he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said to him, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I come again, I will repay you.' 36 So which of these three do you think was neighbour to him who fell among the thieves?" 37 And he said, "He who showed mercy on him." Then Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

Song: "It Is Well"

Congregational Prayer & Lord's Prayer: "Our Father"

Worship in Song: "Our God"

Message: "A Man Went Down"

Introduction:

- I had never heard of bugs called "no see-ems." I thought Linda was kidding me. Until that wee speck on my arm, no bigger than a speck of pepper, started to sting. And sure enough the wee speck was a tiny fly with teeth from the movie "Jaws." Seriously, those little bugs could bite. After a morning of being pursued by them in a park while on vacation many years ago, I turned to one of the staff, a teenage boy, to ask a question: "What do you use to stop these bugs?" Now, I am thinking of a name brand like "Off." He obviously had another thought as he quickly sized up this visibly dim-witted traveller and said, "Bug spray?!?!"
 - The obvious answer was what he gave: Bug spray. But it was not the obvious hero from our story in Luke 10. Today, let's look at the story of the Good Samaritan closer. I want us to look at the injured man; the pious leaders; and the one who saved him.
- (1) The Injured Man:
- Foolish. That's the one word to describe the man who is injured in this

parable. Stupid may not be too strong either. Imagine if you can, walking alone, unprotected on the roughest street in the roughest city alone. Wide open and exposed. The man was foolish.

- The road from Jerusalem was a nightmare - it was exhaustingly steep - only seventeen miles (27 km) long (Smiths Falls to Carleton Place) but dropped almost 3,000 feet in elevation. It was not straight, but had more curves than a major league baseball pitcher. And each of these curves had caves that could harbour thieves.
- So, exhausted from the steep walk downhill to Jericho, the foolish traveller meets his greatest fear, and he falls into the hands of robbers.
- We all know how fast your life can change - the skies become ominous. The hydro is knocked off. And when that first gust of wind came rushing with the sound of an oncoming truck or train. One could only cringe in fear.
- Is that how you feel today? Like you have been pounced on, beaten bruised and left alone in your pain? Help is coming.

Part 2: The Pious Leaders

- "I don't want to get involved." I know I am supposed to, but really."
"He is already beyond my help." "Let someone else do it."

- Jesus introduces two obvious heroes - temple workers (Luke 10:31-32). They live for, work for and are in service for God. They will certainly stop. Surely they must feel compelled to help. But they don't.
- The two religious workers represent the Church. Think about it. We, like them, are called to service for Jesus. We are to be the feet and the hands of the Lord we serve. We are to be filled with compassion and ready to aid God's beloved children. We are called to lay down our lives even: John 15:13 NIV says: "*Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.*" Or, as this parable says, we are to be good neighbours. And we are to do so for all people.
- So how are we doing, Church? Are we helping those who are lost and lonely and hurting? Are we there for those in need? Are we reaching out and caring for the neighbour? The stranger, the family member and the one who can never pay us back? Do we know our call, Church of the living Christ? Jesus makes it clear that walking around those in need is wrong. Jesus tells us that we are to have compassion. Jesus says that we need to get involved. Are we?

(3) The Rescuer

- As Jesus tells the story everyone now presses forward awaiting a hero.

Who will be better than the religious leaders? Who will save the dying man? Who is coming to help?

- And so Jesus brings in a character who would have surprised, shocked, angered, and confused his audience - a Samaritan, a half-breed from a neighbouring nation. The Samaritan Nation was birthed after foreigners took over the northern kingdom, taking on the Hebrew religion (2 Kings 17:24ff) but adding their old religious practices and styles to the Hebrew faith. They were therefore despised because of the differences in their similarities. The Jews hated the Samaritans. A lot.
- But in the parable that Jesus told in Luke 10 a truly unusual act happens. This compassionate foreign man stops, cares, and continues to provide for the injured man, even as far as leaving him well cared for after his departure.
- When we listen to this story, we want to help the man. We scream at the people walking by. We want to do what the Samaritan did for the injured man. We cannot imagine not laying down our life for others.
- Jesus said, "*Greater love has no one than he lay down his life for his friends* (John 15:13)." That is what Jesus is calling for - for us believers in Jesus Christ to be helpful to the needy and hurting people of this

world. We are to embrace as friends those around us in need. We may want to scream at the pious leaders walking by, but could we be accused of walking past those in need? When was the last time you walked past a grieving friend? When was the last time you helped a child in need? A neighbour in trouble? When was the last time you stood up for a friend in trouble, or called someone who was having a rough time? How many of us, on the way to Church today, walked past a need, rushing to be on time?

Part 4: On the Road with Jesus

- Maybe today's message is not to ask you to help others, but to accept the help you need. Perhaps it is you who needs to get off the road of destruction that has just bowled you over, leaving you injured and in need. Please understand this: today God is offering to help you. He is willing to take the load off your shoulder, to carry you through rough times, to love you unconditionally, to reach you in your hurt, to care for you where you are in need, and then to go beyond Himself for your sake - IF YOU LET HIM.
- Jesus said, "*Greater love has no one than he lay down his life for his friend* (John 15:13)." And then He did it. Jesus, the Saviour the Messiah

willingly proved His love for you by laying down His life for you and I and for us all on the cross of Calvary. Jesus willingly faced danger.

Jesus willingly fought for you. It is time to say thank-you, and to allow Him to give Him the gift of your life.

Conclusion:

- It was obvious who the hero should be, like using bug spray for bugs. There on the road lays a man. But the obvious people pass by, unwilling to risk themselves, to inconvenience themselves, to go outside of their way to help.
- A man lies on the road ahead. He is met by one who has compassion. He is met by someone who cares. He is met by someone who puts others before himself. He dares to brave certain danger for this one who he calls friend.
- Jesus died for you to get you off the road, to aid your wounds, and to care about for you. Will you let Him?

Hymn: "Holy Is The Lord God Almighty"

Benediction: 2 Corinthians 13:14 (New King James Version)
"The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen."

Musical Postlude: "Songs of Hope Medley"