

**BREAKING
OPEN THE
WORD**

July 14, 2013
Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Lectionary: 105
Gospel Lk 10:25-37

ST. MATTHEW



ST. MARK



2013

There was a scholar of the law who stood up to test him and said, "Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus said to him, "What is written in the law? How do you read it?" He said in reply, "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your being, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself." He replied to him, "You have answered correctly; do this and you will live." But because he wished to justify himself, he said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man fell victim to robbers as he went down from Jerusalem to Jericho. They stripped and beat him and went off leaving him half-dead. A priest happened to be going down that road, but when he saw him, he passed by on the opposite side. Likewise a Levite came to the place, and when he saw him, he passed by on the opposite side. But a Samaritan traveler who came upon him was moved with compassion at the sight. He approached the victim, poured oil and wine over his wounds and bandaged them. Then he lifted him up on his own animal, took him to an inn, and cared for him. The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper with the instruction, 'Take care of him. If you spend more than what I have given you, I shall repay you on my way back.' Which of these three, in your opinion, was neighbor to the robbers' victim?" He answered, "The one who treated him with mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

Spiritual Reflection:

Notice how the scholar of the law hates Samaritans so much that he cannot even say the word "Samaritan" but instead says "the one who treated him with mercy." Jesus therefore challenges the man to overcome his hate by telling him to "Go and do likewise."

Spiritual Questions

1. If Jesus was here today what would He tell you to do?
2. Who are the Samaritans in your life?
3. What good has the person or persons from #2 done?
4. How can looking at people in a positive light help you like others?
5. What good things are you doing?

