

# “Whom Does God Love?”

Based on Luke 10:25-37 (NIV) February 24, 2019  
Rev. Roger Madden, preaching

† **Jews and Samaritans hated each other deeply, and had for hundreds of years.**

† **The Assyrians started living among the Northern Jews and a mixed race developed and became known as the Samaritans.**

*Luke 10:25-28*

*25 On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"*

*26 "What is written in the Law?" Jesus replied. "How do you read it?"*

*27 He answered: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind' ; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"*

*28 "You have answered correctly," Jesus replied. "Do this and you will live."*

† **The lawyer made it his business to know and understand all of the details of the Jewish religion.**

† **The lawyer is asking, “I want God to love me, what do I need to do to have that?”**

*Parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:30-35)*

† **Jesus’ listeners would not have expected the Samaritan to help a Jewish man.**

† **Luke takes up in this story the ultimate question: Whom does God love?**

† **Jesus says I am to love both God and my neighbor.**

*Luke 10:36-37*

*36 "Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?"*

*37 The expert in the law replied, "The one who had mercy on him." Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise."*

† **Jesus is telling the lawyer that God loves everyone, yet you do not.**

† **I do not “earn” God’s love. It is already there for me.**

† **God is everywhere, everyday, loving me and giving me opportunities to show His love to others.**

## **Applying Today’s Message to My Life:**

† Who is my neighbor?

† When have I “loved” my neighbor?

† When have I not “loved” my neighbor?

† Do I only care for those inside my “doors” of church, work, home, race, creed, gender, etc.?

† What “door(s)” is God calling me to open in my life?

† What would happen if I woke up each day with the excitement of, “I wonder how I will show God’s love to a ‘neighbor’ today?”