

neighbor?" (vs 29) The lawyer is compelled to admit that the one who showed mercy was the good neighbor and the Lord advised him to go and do likewise.

II. The point of the parable

As a general principle a parable has one main idea in mind and all of the accommodating details need not be stressed. The point of this parable is to do good to the person near you who needs it. The neighbor is one near you.....you are showing neighborliness is doing what is of benefit to him. Distinctions of class, race, or even religious preference are irrelevant. What is important is that where you have an opportunity to do good for another, do it (Galatians 6:10) and especially if there is some relationship closer than just space! But , do it, and if we all would remember that our impact in the world about us would be multiplied.

III. The lesson...basically is developed in three simple stages:

- A. There is no one in whom you cannot be interested.
- B. Show kindness to all...without regard to reward, as, understandably you are able.
- C. Show mercy (etc) in proportion to need. Don't limit one way or the other and prepare to be inconvenienced.

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MESSAGE # 3: THE RICH FOOL: AVOID THE CLUTCH OF RICHES AND GREED

Biblical Passage: Luke 12:13-21

I. Introducing the Parable:

Among the followers of the Lord there was one who felt his brother should divide with him the family inheritance. (vs. 13) Without going into the legal or moral technicalities of inheritances, the Lord responded by warning his followers about greed and the deadly philosophy that a man's possessions make him more important or give him a richer living standard than others. He fortifies this teaching with the parable of the rich fool (an empty headed, vain person). Here is another case where the earthly portrait depicts