

**A Servant's Heart:
Unexpected****Background**

- In v25-26 "Law" refers to the traditional Scriptures that include laws given by God that Jewish people were supposed to follow.
- In this passage Jesus is debating with Jewish Teachers (or experts in the law), which was a common cultural practice.
- Both the Levite and the Priest would have been considered significant religious figures at the time and expected to behave as an example of good living.
- Traditionally Jews and Samaritans were not friendly to each other.

Observe: What's there?

- Look for repeated words, comparisons, contrasts, and cause and effect.
- Note characters, relationships, locations, time, actions, and reactions.
- Imagine yourself in the story. What do you see, hear, and smell?

Interpret: What does it mean?

- Develop some questions based on your observations. What stirs your curiosity?
- Imagine the perspective of the people in the scene.
- Answer your questions from the text and context.
- Why is this passage or story here? Try to summarize it in one sentence.

Luke 10:25 - 37

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?" he 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."

²⁹ But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

³⁰ In reply Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. ³¹ A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. ³² So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³ But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. ³⁴ He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. ³⁵ The next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.'

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."

Application: *So what?*

(Tear this off as a reminder for the week)

As you end your study, reflect on how Jesus may be inviting you to apply the passage to your life:

- Take some time to pray for God to help you recognize when He is prompting you to help someone. Choose a time or set a reminder for later this week to evaluate an unexpected service opportunity that came up. In that time think about what happened and what made you decide to help or not help.

Write your personal application commitment here: