

5th Sunday after Pentecost Year C
July 14, 2019

Thoughts about Luke 10: 27-37

The Good Samaritan:

Sometimes the answer to our most bothersome questions are more questions.

We have questions about the challenges we face. God may have some challenges for us.

When all we have is questions, we have to discern where the questions are coming from and what issues are they raising for us as disciples of Christ.

Some questions:

Who is your neighbor?

What are some specific needs in the neighborhood?

How can the church help broaden the concept of neighbor and neighborhood.

Deuteronomy 30:9-14

Blessing and Curse:

We may not be mindful of the consequences of our actions all the time. As modern day mainline people of faith we may be more open to achieving goals, pursuing happiness, or finding a sense of security.

As the world is experienced as dangerous and threatening, often we choose to turn inward or put blinders on. But the Old Testament passage reminds us of consequences as communal, as generational, as spiritual.

It is not so cut and dried. That would be easy. Our relationships with God and others are complicated. Grace is freely given from God but it is not cheap. God loves us deeply but requires of us love that demonstrates God's wide mercy.

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