

CHRISTIANS LOVE AND CARE FOR OTHER PEOPLE

One of the marks of true Christians is that we love and help other people. We even help those people who are not nice to us. We help and care for them because of the love Jesus has put in our hearts. Jesus was filled with compassion for those in need and he wants us to do the same (**Ephesians 5:1-2**).

1. **Luke 10: 25-30.** Jesus told a story to show what it really means to love our neighbor. Jesus said that a man traveling from Jerusalem to Jericho. While he was traveling, some robbers attacked him, beat him up and stole everything he had. The man was left lying on the road badly injured and almost dead.
2. **Luke 10:31-32.** Later, a priest, and then a Levite came along the road where the man was lying. When each one saw the man, he passed by on the other side of the road.
3. **Luke 10:33-37.** Later another man, who was from Samaria, came along. The injured man was from Judah and the Samaritans and Jews were enemies. This did not stop the Samaritan man from helping. He looked at the injured man and felt very sorry for him. He cleaned and bandaged his wounds, placed him on his donkey and took him to an inn [motel] where he gave him food, and took care of him. The next day the Samaritan man gave the innkeeper money so that the injured man could stay until he was ready to travel again. Jesus said that we are to have this type of compassion.
4. **Matthew 25:31-34.** Jesus told another story to help us understand the meaning and importance of helping those in need. Jesus said, "I will come in the last days with all my angels and sit on the throne. I will divide the people of all the nations into two groups, one on my right side, and one on my left side. "King Jesus will say to those on the right, "Come, you who are blessed by my Father! Come and possess the kingdom that has been prepared for you."
5. **Matthew 25:35-36.** Jesus will continue and say, "I was hungry and you fed me. I was thirsty, you gave me a drink. I had no clothes, you gave me some. I was a stranger and you received me in your home. I was sick, you cared for me. I was in prison and you visited me." The people will be so surprised and will answer, "Lord, when did we do all this for you?" Jesus will say, "When you did these things for one of the least important of these followers of mine, you did it for me."
6. **Matthew 25:41.** But the group on Jesus' left side will be told something very different. Jesus will say, "Away from me. You are under God's curse! Away to the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels."
7. **Matthew 25:42-45.** Jesus will continue and say, "You didn't feed me, clothe me, give me a drink, take me into your homes, look after me when I was sick or visit me when I was in prison." The people will say, "But Lord, when did we see you in need? Jesus will reply, " ...whenever you refused to help one of these least important ones, you refused to help me."
8. **John 13:35** When we help other people especially those in need we are showing the love of God. This is a mark of a true disciple of Jesus. Jesus wants us to love and help others. These two stories, which Jesus told, show the importance of helping and caring for others.

God wants to fill us with his Holy Spirit and to pour his love into our hearts (**Romans 5:5**). When we are filled with the Holy Spirit we have a deep love in our hearts for others. Our desire is to use our talents and strength in helping those in need and bringing them to know Jesus. (**Romans 12:9-16 and James 1:27**).

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LK 10.25-30

2

LK 10.31-32

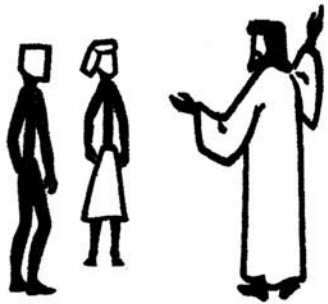
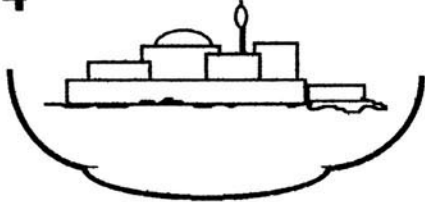


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LK 10.33-37



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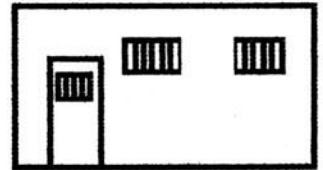


MT 25.31-34

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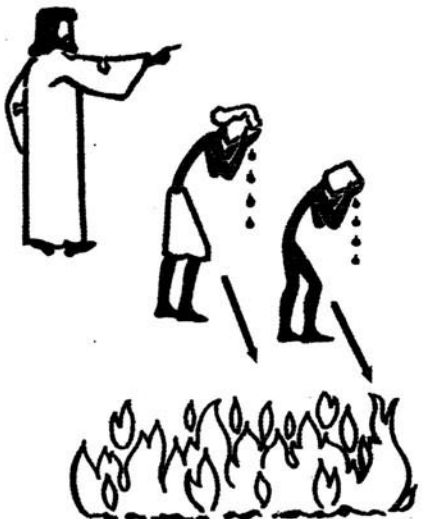


MT 25.35-36



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MT 25.41

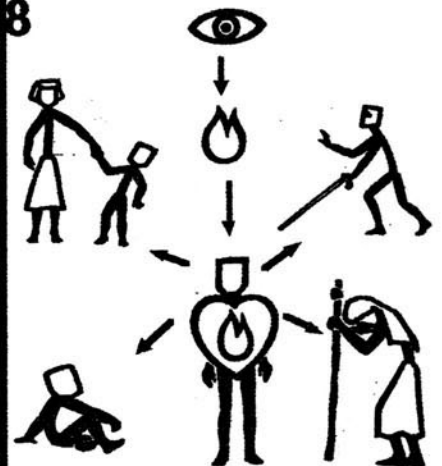


7



MT 25.42-45

8



ROM 5.5, ROM 12.9-16, JAS 1.27