

12 Marks of Jesus-Style Neighbor Love:
From Jesus' Story of the Good Samaritan, Luke 10:25-37



- 1. Jesus-Style Neighbor-Love happens right where you are.**
Good Samaritan Story: The guy on the donkey was on his way someplace else.
Radical love isn't practiced someplace else. It happens where you shop. Where you eat. Where you are.
- 2. Jesus-Style Neighbor-Love begins with one small step.**
Good Samaritan Story: The guy on the donkey *stopped*.
For most of us, love is *small*: a ride, a meal for a new mom, a gas station gift card for a family in crisis.
- 3. Jesus-Style Neighbor-Love crosses barriers.**
Good Samaritan Story: The man in need was "other" than the man who stopped to help him.
Love may engage those who are other than you are in age, color, language, ability, gender, culture, etc.
- 4. Jesus-Style Neighbor-Love uses the gifts and resources you have.**
Good Samaritan Story: The guy on the donkey used his compassion, donkey, and money to love.
Got a lawnmower? Got food? Got income tax skills? Neighbor-love uses what you have.
- 5. Jesus-Style Neighbor-Love is relational.**
Good Samaritan Story: The guy on the donkey got the man help, and later returned.
Love is not bombing someone with a sandwich and then retreating; it honors and nurtures relationship.
- 6. Jesus-Style Neighbor-Love meets a need.**
Good Samaritan Story: The guy on the donkey noticed and met critical needs.
Love meets real needs: respite for a caregiver, food for the hungry, job skills for the unemployed.
- 7. Jesus-Style Neighbor-Love can be surprising.**
Good Samaritan Story: The two men in this story were from people groups who despised one another.
The love Jesus describes may upend the ways people typically operate.
- 8. Jesus-Style Neighbor-Love is experienced in community.**
Good Samaritan Story: The guy on the donkey enlisted an innkeeper to help.
Neighbor-love was never meant to be a Lone Ranger sort of affair. It is practiced in community.
- 9. Jesus-Style Neighbor-Love is mutual.**
Good Samaritan Story: The guy on the donkey benefited from the opportunity to be who he was made to be.
Neighbor-love allows both the one helping and the one helped to flourish and thrive.
- 10. Jesus-Style Neighbor-Love can be inconvenient.**
Good Samaritan Story: The guy on the donkey was definitely late for work or coffee with a friend that day.
The love Jesus prescribes doesn't always fit neatly into our schedules, rhythms, or boxes.
- 11. Jesus-Style Neighbor-Love can be uncomfortable.**
Good Samaritan Story: The man who stopped was no less uncomfortable engaging as your or I would be.
God's Spirit may nudge you to love your neighbor in a way that feels awkward or uncomfortable.
- 12. Jesus-Style Neighbor-Love can require risk.**
Good Samaritan Story: The guy on the donkey risked his own wellbeing to love a stranger.
Jesus prioritized love over fear. Ask God to give you the courage to love boldly.

Discover more about how you're uniquely suited to love your neighbor by reading:
[Small Things With Great Love: Adventures in Loving Your Neighbor](#)

