



Servant's Corner

May 2013

Getting Personally Involved

By Rich Henderson, Love INC Director

But a certain Samaritan...felt compassion, and came to him...and took care of him. Luke 10:33-34

Decades ago, when I was a Seminary student, I was changing the oil in my car outside the house where I rented a room. A stranger pulled up in a station wagon. He identified himself as a neighbor and told me where he lived—just a few blocks away. He said his wife was hospitalized in a city 50 miles away and he urgently needed a loan of \$40 for gas money to visit her.

I knew what I should do. I should take the time to listen to his entire story. I should investigate. If the story checked out, I should look for other ways I could help this family in need. At the very least, I should go to the gas station and put gas in his car to make sure the money was going towards gas and not drugs.

I didn't. Why? It was inconvenient. The bottom line was that I didn't want to get personally involved, which is what the situation called for.

I gave him \$40. As soon as he drove off, the Lord convicted me that I might as well have thrown that money in the gutter. When I went by his "house" later on, the residents didn't know him.

The Good Samaritan got personally involved and made a life-changing difference. I did what was easy. As a result, I not only squandered the Lord's money, I also rewarded a man for lying. May the Lord help us do the right thing, even if it's costly.



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