

GO AND DO LIKEWISE!!!

Go and put your faith into Action.

The Good Samaritan is one of the most familiar parables of all time.

As soon as we hear: “a man fell victim to robbers” we recall this parable.

By making the Samaritan the good guy among a priest and a Levite, Jesus was illustrating that He was looking for an example of someone who made mercy a part of his inner being and way of life. This is not something you get from a book or a written law. It wasn't a learned person but someone who had experienced God's love and mercy himself. As a matter of fact, four verses before the start of our Gospel, at 10:21, Luke shows Jesus praising the Father with this prayer after the return of His disciples:

**10:21 At that very moment he rejoiced [in] the holy Spirit and said, “I give you praise, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for although you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned you have revealed them to the childlike.\*** Yes, Father, such has been your gracious will.

It is through the power of the Holy Spirit that we are instructed and enabled to obtain a merciful heart that will guide us in these situations. The Holy Spirit will show us those in need around us and also give us the wisdom to minister to them. Many times the Holy Spirit will show us people who will mirror that caring attitude and empathy needed to be Christ to others. It doesn't seem to be the natural attitude that most people have.

In our first reading from Deuteronomy, an exasperated Moses pleads with his people:

“IF ONLY YOU WOULD HEED THE VOICE OF THE LORD, YOUR GOD”.

They seemed to be looking for the Spirit of God in a faraway place. Isn't that just like us when we search for peace and true joy in all the wrong places? We will try all kinds of things that the world says will bring happiness and peace, while all along God has planted His Spirit in our hearts at Baptism. All we need to do is act on it.

YOU HAVE ONLY TO CARRY IT OUT.