



INTERNATIONAL DEVOTION OF UEM
ON WEDNESDAY 6TH MAY 2026

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FROM DRC/ CBCA

WHO IS MY NEIGHBOUR

LUKE 10:28-37

INTRODUCTION



1. Religious Duty Without Mercy

Jewish priests and Levites were bound by laws about uncleanness; touching a possibly dead or bloodied man could make them ritually unclean and disqualify them from temple duties. This cultural background helps explain their hesitation.

2. The Compassion of the Samaritan

Crossing social boundaries: Samaritans and Jews were enemies; the Samaritans' action is radical because it breaks ethnic and religious barriers.

- Love and service must be offered without regard to gender, age, race, nationality, or color.
- When we see suffering near us, we are not free to look away; responsibility follows proximity
- Acting compassionately means working for justice, promoting gender, and being peacemakers.
- Is to see first the human dignity and to pass over laws that can bind people.





3. The holistic compassion

Mercy extends beyond people to the ecosystems that sustain them.

- If God made the earth and declared it good, then the earth shares in God's dignity. Caring for soil, rivers, forests, and animals is an act of love toward a neighbor who cannot speak for itself.
- To cultivate the land is to love one another, for when the land yields its produce, it is for the good of all. Psalm 104:14
- If we have compassion for creation and take care of it, it will, in turn, give us good health and care for us as well. If we love our neighbor and treat them with compassion but do not care for the environment, we are killing them without realizing it.

Loving our neighbor and caring for creation are one single vocation. God entered the world in flesh and walked among us; when we show compassion to the earth, we answer God's presence and protect the health, dignity, and future of our neighbors. Let our faith be visible not only in words but in the way we tend soil, share food, guard water, and restore what has been harmed.