

A young man with short brown hair, wearing a grey hoodie, is sitting and talking to an older woman with blonde hair, wearing a blue patterned cardigan. They are outdoors, with a stone wall and some greenery in the background. The man is on the left, and the woman is on the right. They are both looking at each other and appear to be in a conversation.

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PASTORAL CARE CONFERENCE

24 June 2017

The Vine Conference Centre
Dunfermline



The Church of Scotland

SESSION II

WHO, WHEN & WHERE Pastoral Care?



AIM

- We shall use the Parable of the Good Samaritan in order to consider the who, when and where questions of Pastoral Care.
- We shall explore who provides care and who we are called to offer care to.
- We shall discuss a particular time in life when care is needed.
- Finally, we shall examine the places where we are called to care.



PLAN

1. Parable of the Good Samaritan
2. Who cares for whom?
3. When do we care?
4. Where do we care?



PARABLE OF THE GOOD SAMARITAN

LUKE 10.25-37

²⁵ On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus.

‘Teacher,’ he asked, ‘what must I do to inherit eternal life?’

²⁶ ‘What is written in the Law?’ he replied. ‘How do you read it?’

²⁷ He answered, “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind’”; and, “‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’”

²⁸ ‘You have answered correctly,’ Jesus replied. ‘Do this and you will live.’



PARABLE OF THE GOOD SAMARITAN

²⁹ But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, ‘And who is my neighbour?’

³⁰ In reply Jesus said: ‘A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half-dead. ³¹ A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. ³² So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side.



PARABLE OF THE GOOD SAMARITAN

³³ But a Samaritan, as he travelled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him.³⁴ He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. ³⁵ The next day he took out two denarii^[c] and gave them to the innkeeper. “Look after him,” he said, “and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.”



PARABLE OF THE GOOD SAMARITAN

³⁶ ‘Which of these three do you think was a neighbour to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?’

³⁷ The expert in the law replied, ‘The one who had mercy on him.’
Jesus told him, ‘Go and do likewise.’



GROUP DISCUSSION I

- How does the Parable of the Good Samaritan inform your pastoral imagination?



WHO CARES FOR WHOM?

PROVIDERS

- Ministers and Pastors
- All who are called, gifted, recognised and set apart by the church



WHO CARES FOR WHOM?

EPHESIANS 4.11-13

¹¹ The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, ¹² to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³ until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.



WHO CARES FOR WHOM?

RECIPIENTS

‘All guests who arrive should be received as if they were Christ, for he will say, “I was a stranger and you took me in.”’



WHO CARES FOR WHOM?

MATTHEW 25.31-40

³¹ “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory.

³² All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³ and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left.



WHO CARES FOR WHOM?

MATTHEW 25.31-40

³⁴ Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵ for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me ³⁶ I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.'



WHO CARES FOR WHOM?

MATTHEW 25.31-40

³⁷ Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸ And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹ And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' ⁴⁰ And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'



GROUP DISCUSSION 2

- Spend a couple of minutes in pairs speaking about the 'stranger' who lives in your midst and how, as a Christian fellowship, you might care for her in her time of need.



WHEN DO WE CARE?

The Pastoral Care for those with Dementia

- The nature of personal identity
- Bonhoeffer, 'Who am I?'
- I think therefore I am; I am because we are
- Relations with Time



WHEN DO WE CARE?

ISAIAH 49.15-16

‘Can a woman forget her nursing child’, asks God,
‘or show no compassion for the child of her womb?
Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you.
See, I have inscribed you on the palms of my hands;
your walls are continually before me.’



GROUP DISCUSSION 3

- Consider your experiences of care we offer to friends and loved ones who have dementia.



WHERE DO WE CARE?

IN A CHURCH WITHOUT WALLS

- Hospitals
- Nursing Homes
- Food Banks
- Work Place Chaplaincy Scotland



GROUP DISCUSSION 4

- What opportunities do you recognise in your local community to care for those in a church without walls?



CONCLUSION

- Who do we care for? We are call to care for everyone, in particular for the stranger in need.
- When shall we care? At every stage of journey of life, especially when people are most vulnerable.
- Where shall we care? In every place, but with particular sense of purpose beyond church.

