



# A Call to Ministry

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# Introduction

- **Human beings were created for a purpose**
- **Genesis 1:26 – 28**
- **Today there is a battle between good and evil**
- **The battle between right and wrong originated in heaven (Rev 12:9/LK 10:18)**
- **Partnership with God in eliminating evil from the universe**
- **His own breath is in us**



# The Context to this Sermon

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The prevailing conditions in society and our world today:-

- Church and religion seem irrelevant to people's life today
- There is a culture of looking after self
- Despite the above, there is a general feeling of hopelessness
- Global conflicts are creating fear
- The mismanagement of the planet is creating adverse climate changes impact – some believe that there will be no future mankind on the planet
- Within this gloom, there are opportunities show that a better day will come

# The definition of a parable

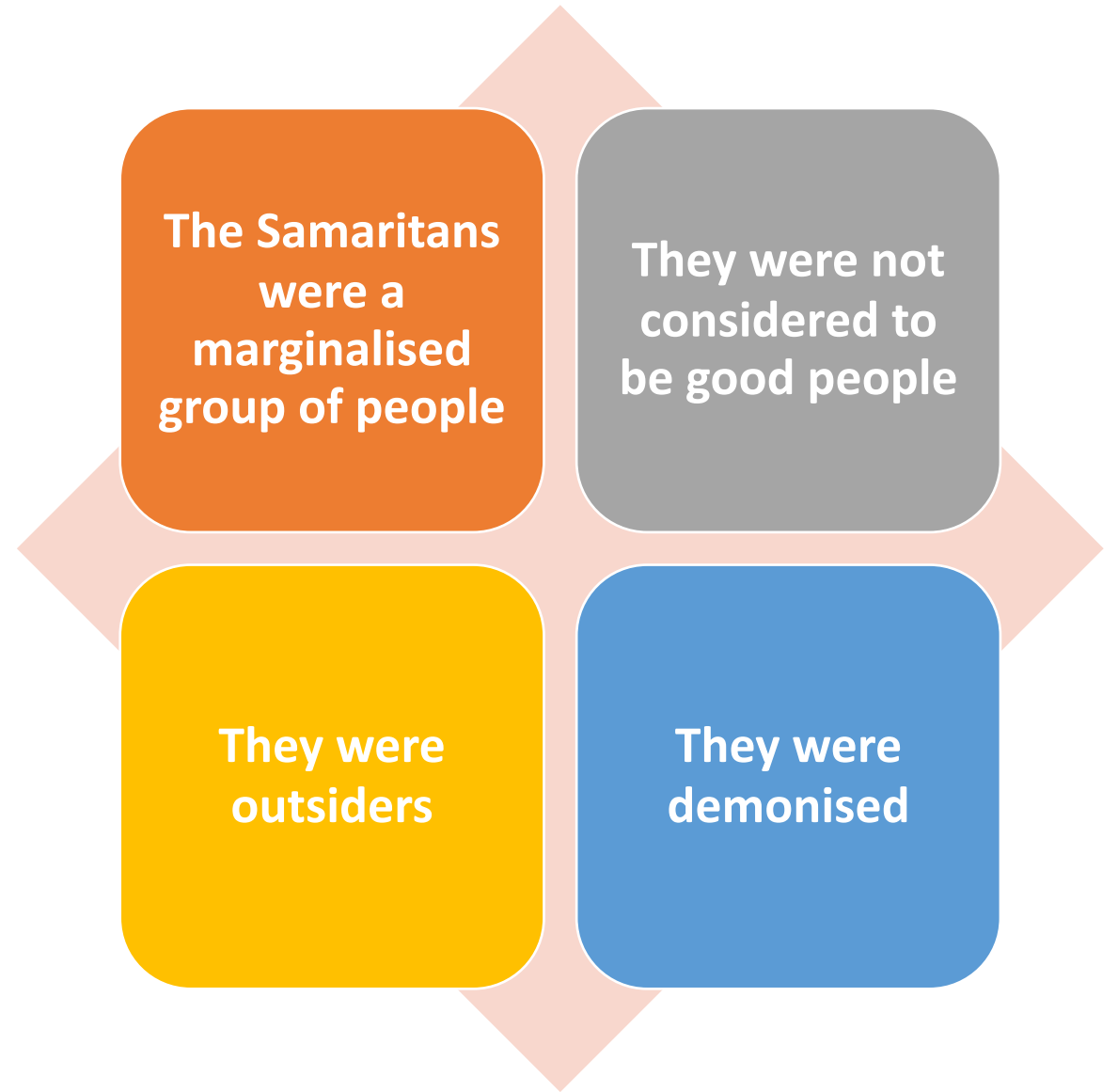
Remember, a parable is a small, seemingly simply story that reveals **BIG truths about the kingdom of God**. In the Parable of the Good Samaritan, we find several tough questions and a BIG answer that reveals an even **BIGGER** truth about God's kingdom.

Questions:

- Who will inherit eternal life?
- Who is my neighbour?
- Accident or intention?

These questions will be answered later in this presentation.

The Samaritan was not expected to be a good neighbour



# Barriers To Belonging

1. Racism
2. Sexism
3. Ageism
4. The values and principles you hold

## Commentary

You need not wait to be included or to be invited in



A hand is shown holding a key, with the background consisting of several stacked cardboard boxes. The scene is brightly lit, and the focus is on the key and the hand.

# The Key To Belonging

**The KEY to belonging lies in your hand – you hold the key. So, how do you use that Key?**

- 1. You can do all things through Christ – Philippians 4: 13**
- 2. Create your own unique niche – Booker T Washington**
- 3. Be an expert**
- 4. Have a mission to serve all people**

In summary  
belonging  
(paradoxically  
) starts with  
US

Excluded groups must seized the initiative and themselves be the catalyst for forging a feeling of belonging.

We must generate a feeling of togetherness as the platform for success in the wider areas of society.

The extending of love to each other is a crucial condition for belonging.



The potential  
for  
intellectual  
growth (There is a  
view that only a few are  
capable)

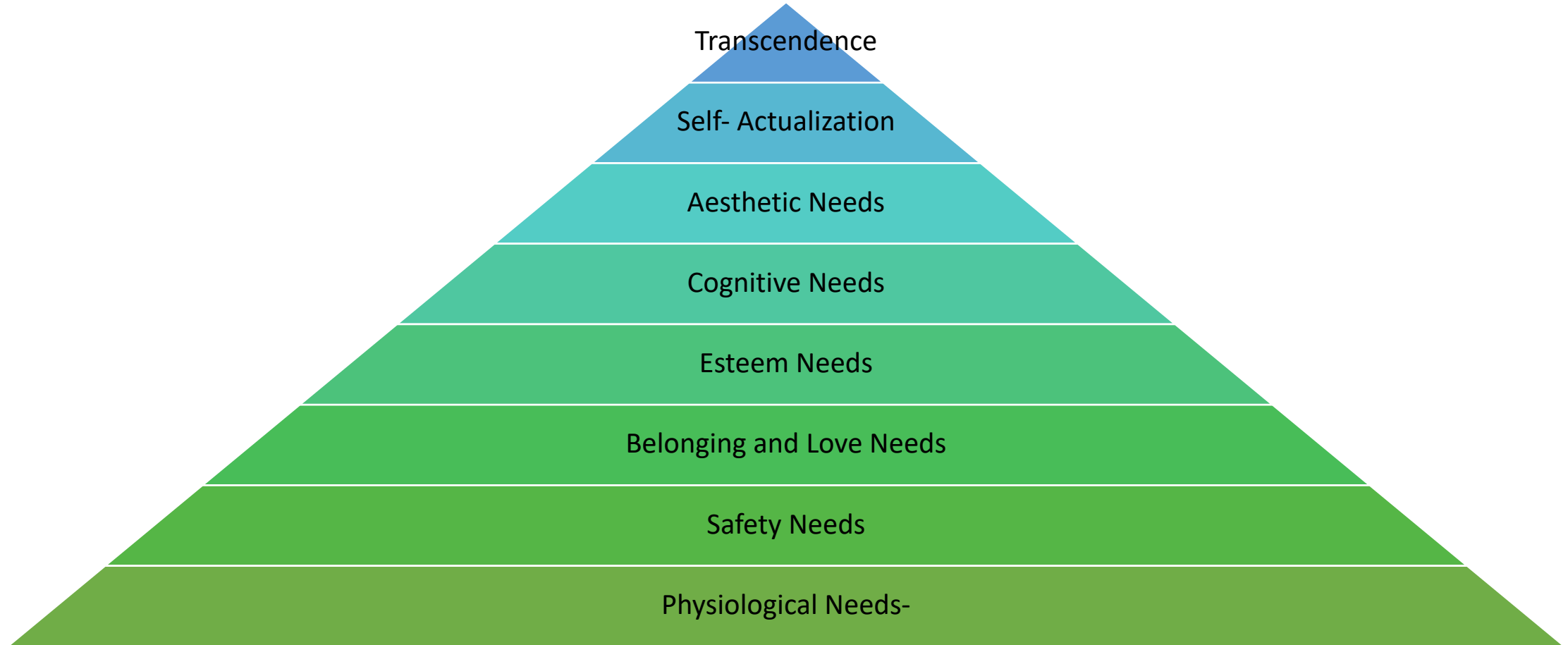
Eph 4:11-13

Moses (see Josephus )

Daniel (Ch. 1: 18-20)

Maslow Theory

# Abraham Maslow's theory of motivational needs





Soaring like an Eagle

Education provides the wings for  
soaring



# The Story of The Good Samaritan as told by Jesus

- **A brief overview of the story**
- **The proposition to be considered: That the compassionate response of the Samaritan was not an impulsive or spontaneous reaction**
- **It contains a profound lesson for Christians today**
- **Read LK 10: 30 – 37**



# Important details from the story

Breaking the myth  
– the Samaritan  
was adequately  
endowed

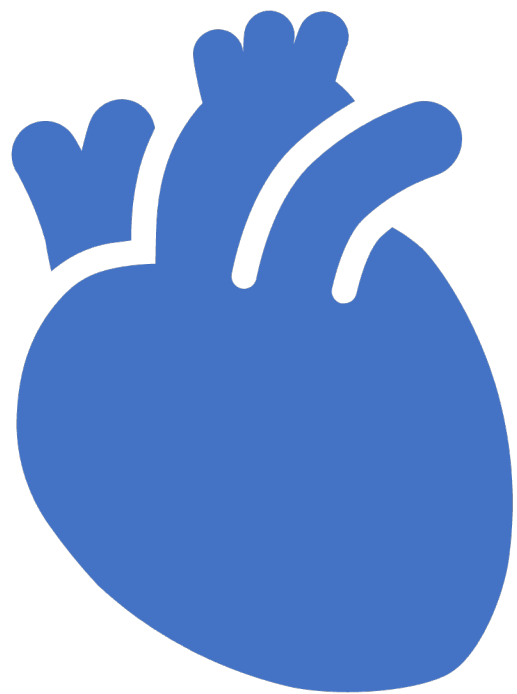
He had  
compassion

He had a medical  
kit

He transported the  
wounded to an inn

He had a  
relationship with  
the inn keeper

The charge – “Go  
and do likewise”



# Lessons

**Some conditions for serving and caring:**

- **A heart of compassion**
- **Caring must be a way of life/it must be INTENTIONAL**
- **We must be intelligent about serving and caring**
- **Serving involves collaboration**
- **Devoting time to service**

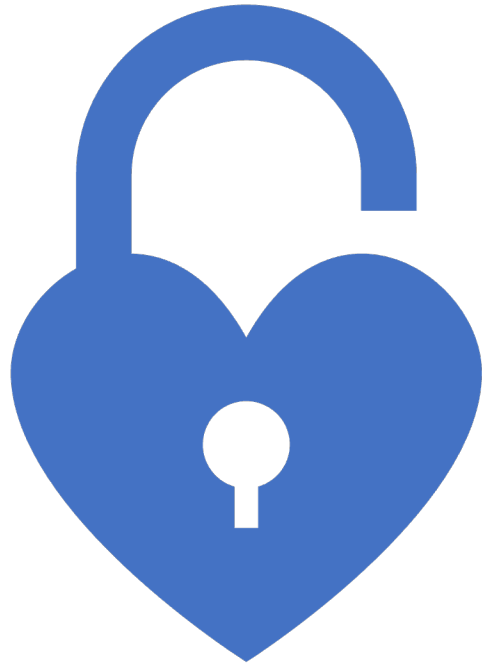
# Song



**SHARING IN THE JOYS OF  
SERVICE**



**CONGREGATION**



## Sanctify Them by Your Truth, Your Word is Truth

John 17:17

• To sanctify means to set apart for:

1. Holiness

2. Service (ministry)

- All our resources (spiritual gifts; our heart; that is, our emotions; our intellect; and our physical strength – our physical energies, our wealth, our properties and **COLLECTIVELY THE CHURCH BUILDING**).
- These possessions of ours are to be deployed in our call to ministry – Read Matthew 4: 23-25



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The story  
of the  
Samaritan  
is a picture  
of Jesus

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- See 'The Desire of Ages' pg 441/442
  - Jesus and His Mission
  - Man had been deceived, bruised robbed, and ruined by Satan and left to perish
  - But Jesus had compassion on our helpless condition
  - He came to the rescue
  - Unless there is practical self-sacrifice, we are not Christians
  - Our interest must be like Jesus, that is, to serve humanity
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# Conclusion

- **The Samaritan was not shaped by the general expectation of society or the narrative of the day**
- **He respected human life**
- **He was obedient to the command to love God and his neighbour**
- **The Samaritan was not just a do good novice, but was educated to serve**
- **Do not ignore the warning to be found in the parable of the sheep and the goats (Matt 25:31-46)**
- **Ministry must be the purpose of our life**