

St Martins C3 – June 21, 2026

Bridge Building – Do Good Wisely

Sermon Notes:

As we continue to build bridges, we can now see how to show God to others. **Once you have built a relationship with others, wisely do good to them.** Today, we look at some principles that help us do good wisely.

1 - Do Good to the Whole Person (not just their soul)

Read Acts 10:38; 1 Peter 2:12

What did Jesus do? Yes, he broke the power of the devil by healing people, but he also did good to them here and now. He didn't just invite people into the Kingdom; he brought the Kingdom to their lives. It wasn't just about saving their souls; it was bringing wellbeing to all of them.

That is why our message to our community is that we are here to help. This idea of doing good and increasing well-being is an important missional objective.

Here's the question to ask yourself: "How can I bring God glory by showing love to this whole person?"

2 –Do Good Generously (within your capacity)

Read Galatians 6:9-10; 2 Corinthians 8:12

These verses encourage abundant giving to others while acknowledging limitations to what we can give. We need to be realistic about our limitations.

We don't like that we have limits, but we do. We have financial limits, we have time and energy limits, we have skill limits, we may even have limits on our faith and boldness. If we can be aware of these limits we can still give generously within them.

3 – Do Good that Actually Helps (Not harms)

This one requires us to think deeper about good deeds than we might ever have thought before. To bless others is to strengthen their arms.

This means something is only a blessing if it feels like a blessing to them.

Read Matthew 7:12

Unless you meet the right need, you run the danger of hurting people rather than helping them. Doing good isn't just about action – it's about wise love. It takes time to understand what someone actually needs.

Here's a question to ask as we go about our week:

“God, how can I bring you glory by showing love to this whole person?”

If you ask this question, don't be surprised if opportunities come and moments appear where God moves in ways that make a difference to the people around you.

Questions for Connect Groups:

Key Point

Once you have built a relationship with others, wisely do good to them.

Questions

What stood out to you from this week's message?

What does this message tell you about God and humans?

When have you seen someone give unwisely to others?

What happened as a result?

Do you agree that increasing the wellbeing of others is an important missional goal like salvations? Explain.

What are some ways others have given generously to you?

How did it show you the love of God?

How can you be aware of your limitations of finance, ability, knowledge, and faith and still give generously to others?

Name some ways you can be a blessing to others?

How would you know if giving money would be more harmful than helpful for someone came asking for it?

What can we do to ensure our helping is actually a blessing for others?

What difference would it make to pray: "God, show me how I can bring love to this whole person"?

Monday Devotion: Healing the Whole Person

Jesus heals a man who has been disabled for 38 years. This is a remarkable healing. Truly, Jesus came to do good to others. Yet, He doesn't stop there. He searches the man out and encourages a life that is free from sin. Jesus wants to do it all in the lives around us too.

Scripture

John 5:1-15

Observation (What stands out to you?)

Application (What will you do?)

Prayer (What do you want to say to God?)

Tuesday Devotion: Can't Always Get What You Want

We looked at this story last week, but there is more here.

Notice the similarity between vs. 36 and 49. Both times Jesus asks what they want. The disciples ask for glory, Bartimaeus asks for sight. Both are blind, and Jesus heals both, but one is through new understanding.

Scripture

Mark 10:33-52

Observation (What stands out to you?)

Application (What will you do?)

Prayer (What do you want to say to God?)

Wednesday Devotion: Without Being Asked

Jesus doesn't always ask people what they want. Sometimes he is able to see what they really need and just do it. We shouldn't be so worried about hurting people unintentionally that we don't help others. Jesus was moved by compassion, and in exceptional circumstances, we can do the same.

Scripture

Luke 7:7-17

Observation (What stands out to you?)

Application (What will you do?)

Prayer (What do you want to say to God?)

Thursday Devotion: Reversal

Earlier in the week, we saw a miracle where both healed and encouraged a life free from sin. Here, Jesus reverses the order and forgives his sins before offering healing. He shows that there is a spiritual need as well as a physical need. We should look to meet both needs in others' lives.

Scripture

Mark 2:1-12

Observation (What stands out to you?)

Application (What will you do?)

Prayer (What do you want to say to God?)

Friday Devotion: Refusals

Jesus did not always give people what they wanted. Sometimes he refused to give them anything at all. He could see the motives of their hearts. Their mistreatment of Him or their active unbelief meant that Jesus withheld himself from them. Consider when it would be better to say “no” to others.

Scripture

Mark 8:11-13; Mark 6:1-6

Observation (What stands out to you?)

Application (What will you do?)

Prayer (What do you want to say to God?)
