NEIGHBOR

Recently while filling my car with gas, I tripped over the hose and fell hard to the ground. I hit my head on the concrete, my glasses went flying off, and my nose though not broken, sustained a deep cut. For a minute I was knocked out and bleeding from my head and nose. I reached for my handkerchief, and it was missing, as I had left it on the dresser that morning. Still confused and bleeding, I did manage to open the back hatch of my van, and get a rag to hold back the blood. My hands and face were all covered with blood, and I looked like I had just gone a few rounds of boxing! During this time there were 3 other individuals filling their cars with gas, and not one of them made an attempt to offer any help, or even ask if I was okay.

This accident reminds me of the story of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37). A man was beaten by robbers, stripped of his garments and money, and left on the road to die. A priest and a Levite both passed by, and paid no attention to the injured man. A Samaritan did stop and help. In my case it was my wife who helped, after I got home. She washed and bandaged my wounds.

Have we as a society that calls ourselves Christian become so callused that we are fearful of getting involved, that when we see a man lying face down and bleeding we just turn away fearful of getting involved?

The Samaritan got involved. Read the story of the Good Samaritan, then do as Jesus said when asked who was neighbor to the man who fell. Jesus replied, "The man who had compassion" Then Jesus said. "Go and do likewise." Are we willing to show compassion to our neighbor?

Deacon Len