

“Neighbor” in Luke/Acts and the Septuagint

Three Greek words are translated as “neighbor(s)” in Luke/Acts, as follows

plēsion (224x in LXX; 17x in NT)

Luke 10.27, 29, 36	He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your being, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." ...But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor ?"... "Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?"
Acts 7.27	“But the man who was wronging his neighbor pushed Moses aside,saying, 'Who made you a ruler and a judge over us?'"
Exodus 2.13	When he went out the next day, he saw two Hebrews fighting;and he said to the one who was in the wrong, "Why do you strike your fellow Hebrew?"
Exodus 20.16-17	You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor . You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor .
Leviti- cus 19.12-18	You shall not steal; you shall not deal falsely; and you shall not lie to one another . And you shall not swear falsely by my name, profaning the name of your God: I am YHWH. You shall not defraud your neighbor ; you shall not steal; and you shall not keep for yourself the wages of a laborer until morning. You shall not revile the deaf or put a stumbling block before the blind; you shall fear your God: I am YHWH. You shall not render an unjust judgment; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbor . You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not profit by the blood of your neighbor : I am YHWH. You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall reprove your neighbor , or you will incur guilt yourself. You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am YHWH.

geitōn (16x in LXX; 4x in NT; only John 9.8 outside Luke)

Luke 14.12	He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors , in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid."
Luke 15.6, 9	And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors , saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost!...When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors , saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.'

perioikoi (9x in LXX; 1x in NT)

Luke 1.58	Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her.
Deuter- onomy 1.7	Resume your journey, and go into the hill country of the Amorites as well as into the neighboring regions --the Arabah, the hill country, the Shephelah, the Negeb, and the seacoast--the land of the Canaanites and the Lebanon, as far as the great river, the river Euphrates.
Judge 1.27	1:27 Manasseh did not drive out the inhabitants of Beth-shean and its villages, or Taanach and its villages, or the inhabitants of Dor and its villages, or the inhabitants of Ibleam and its villages, or the inhabitants of Megiddo and its villages; but the Canaanites continued to live in that land.