

July 23, 2023 - Sermon Discussion Questions

ICEBREAKER

- 1. Do highs and lows from the last week!
- 2. Can you think of a time in your life where someone gave you undeserved kindness? How did that impact you?

OR

3. Can you name a time where you judged someone prematurely?

DIG A LITTLE DEEPER

- 1. Review the message
 - a. Jesus shares the story of the Good Samaritan in response to a Jewish lawyer asking him "who is my neighbor?"
 - b. The story of the Good Samaritan isn't just about being nicer to those around you
 - c. The story of the Good Samaritan reveals our need for a savior and who our savior is
- 2. Read Luke 10:25-28
 - a. Why do you think the lawyer asks this question to test Jesus?
 - b. Why do you think Jesus uses the present tense "live" when the lawyer is asking about inheriting eternal life?
 - c. Is eternal life something just for later or is it something we can experience now? How could loving God and our neighbors give us a taste of eternal life?
- 3. Read Luke 10:29-37
 - a. The lawyer wanted to "justify himself" in what areas of your life are you most tempted to justify yourself? In what areas of your life are you most tempted to judge others?
 - b. A common tension we experience as Christians in our world today is expressing what we believe to be God's truth in a broken world, but doing it with love and compassion. Where have you succeeded or failed at this? How?
 - c. The parable of the Good Samaritan reveals in us two potential problems. Problem number one is that we think we are good but really we aren't (the lawyer), or that we know we aren't good so we try to become good by ourselves (popular teachings of this story lean this way). Which problem do you resonate with yourself and why?
 - d. The parable of the Good Samaritan points us to Jesus as our savior. That even when we were enemies of God he saved us. How could accepting this truth help you love your enemies?

CLOSING

- 1. Where in your life are you noticing the temptation to judge others and/or justify yourself as oppose to taking the risk of loving people who are difficult to love?
- 2. Pray