

Series: *It's Not About Me*
***How Big Is Your Neighborhood?* (April 16, 2023)**

Luke 10:25-37

Begin by reading the text in its entirety, perhaps in two different translations. It is important to remember that the parable Jesus told of the Good Samaritan is a story. While it is ok to be think creatively, over-thinking particulars can take you to some applications that are not biblical.

1. Discuss the motive of the lawyer who questioned Jesus. Was he truly looking for answers or for something else?
2. In verse 25, the lawyer asks a question that is inconsistent. In what way is it inconsistent? Discuss.
3. Is there anything in Jesus' response (verse 28) that you find surprising? If so, what is it?
4. Discuss the role of a Priest and Levite in the times of Jesus. Who were they and what did they do?
5. Do some personal investigation to see what you can find about the Jericho Road in the days of Jesus. Was it known for anything particular?
6. Joe talked about the Point of View being important in this story. He talked about the point of view of the man by the side of the road. Share an experience when you were similar to the man in need on the road. Did anyone stop to help? How did that go?
7. What do we know about Samaritans in the days of Jesus?
8. Finish this sentence: YOUR NEIGHBOR IS ANYONE WHOSE NEED YOU _____ AND WHOSE NEED YOU CAN _____
9. Think about a time when you engaged with a "neighbor" in lovingly helping. What did it cost you?
10. At their core, all of the parables of Jesus are about salvation...about your need for a Savior and Jesus being that Savior. In what way does this parable tie into that?
11. On the surface, and important to our lives, this story is about loving one's neighbor. But going deeper, it is about your own need for a Savior. Read together Ephesians 1:1-1. Discuss what you see.
12. Before ending, take some time to think about a "neighbor" the Holy Spirit may have placed in your mind. Think of one thing you might decide to do in order to love that neighbor as yourself.

God, thank You for giving us the example of the Good Samaritan in Your Word. Help us to take that example seriously in our daily lives, as we interact with others who may or may not know You. Let us see Your Son, Jesus, as the Savior who meets not just our physical needs, but our spiritual and emotional needs as well. Your great love and compassion for us is beyond our comprehension. Thank You!