

**SERMON SERIES:** If/Then: If We Care For Others, Then God...

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## Key Line

If we care for others, then God will be discovered by others.

## Introduction

We spend much of our time seeking comfort. Sometimes we need to stop thinking about our own comfort and start thinking about others and their needs.

## Seek the Word

Read Luke 10:25-37.

- Why do you think the religious man asked Jesus this question? (*He might have been seeking a real answer or he may have wanted to trip Jesus up and find him teaching something wrong.*)
- What was Jesus' answer? (*Love God with all your heart, soul, strength, and mind.*) Why do you think he did not say to obey the whole law? (*He was demonstrating that there was more to the law than just doing certain things. God wants our hearts.*)
- What was the relationship between Jews and Samaritans? (*They did not like each other. Jews thought they were unclean and didn't associate with them at all.*) Why do you think Jesus used a Samaritan in this story?
- How did each person react to seeing the beaten man? (*The priest and Levite ignored him and passed by, but the Samaritan stopped and cared for the man. He used his own money to pay for the hotel and care.*)
- Who was the neighbor to the injured man? (*The one who showed the man mercy. The Samaritan.*)
- What was Jesus' instruction to his audience in verse 37? (*Go and do the same.*)

## Talk About It

- What is Jesus' relationship with the mess in people's lives? (*He moves toward the mess, not away. He is in the mess with us.*)
- What are some reasons we give not to get involved with messy people? (*Examples include: I'm also a mess and don't have the answers. I don't want to offend someone. I need to keep my boundaries. They made their mess; they'll have to clean it up themselves. It's inconvenient. I'm too busy.*)
- "You know you have a disconnect in your relationship with God when you view people as inconveniences rather than opportunities to show the love of God." Think about this quote for a minute and decide on at least one way you can choose to engage with others and the things that God is engaged in.