

Life Group Story Guide (Week 1)

Theme: "Loving Our Neighbor", Story Guide 1: Luke 10:25-37 (The Good Samaritan)

Open in Prayer, Welcome & Introductions

Review of Life Group Guidelines

Hook Question: What is the best advice you've ever received from your parents or friend?

Background of the story: JESUS was confronted with a question by a man who wanted to test Him by asking, "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" JESUS points him back to the law, which emphasizes loving GOD fully and loving one's neighbor. Seeking to limit the scope of responsibility, the man presses further, asking, "Who is my neighbor?" In response, JESUS tells the parable of the Good Samaritan, a shocking story to His Jewish audience. The parable reframes "neighbor" not as someone we choose, but anyone in need whom we have the opportunity to help.

Tell the Story: This week's Bible passage is found in **Luke 10:25-37**

Rebuild the Story

Read the Story out loud (look for additions or omissions)

Questions:

- Why do you think JESUS chose a Samaritan—someone despised by Jewish listeners—as the hero of this parable? What impact would that have had on His audience?
- The Samaritan's compassion cost him time, money, and reputation, in short "sacrificial action". What's the hardest "cost" for you when it comes to loving your neighbor?
- Who are the "neighbors" in my life that I sometimes overlook or avoid helping?
 And what personal biases or excuses keep me from showing mercy and compassion to those I overlook or avoid helping?
- JESUS ends with "go and do likewise." What is one intentional **act of mercy** you will commit to carrying out this week?

Review & Retell the Story

Assign Next Week's Story: 2 Samuel 9:1-13

Close in Prayer