

Seeing or Being a Neighbor

Luke 10:25-37 ▪ Brad Manley

The Law of God _____ Our Heart. vv. 25-28

**The Nature of Our Relationship with God is Revealed in Our _____ to the
_____ of Others.** vv. 29-37

Have We _____ the Point?

Luke 10:25-37

²⁵ And behold, a lawyer stood up to put him to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" ²⁶ He said to him, "What is written in the Law? How do you read it?" ²⁷ And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself." ²⁸ And he said to him, "You have answered correctly; do this, and you will live." ²⁹ But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

³⁰ Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him and departed, leaving him half dead. ³¹ Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. ³² So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³ But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he

was, and when he saw him, he had compassion. ³⁴ He went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he set him on his own animal and brought him to an inn and took care of him. ³⁵ And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take care of him, and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.' ³⁶ Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?" ³⁷ He said, "The one who showed him mercy." And Jesus said to him, "You go, and do likewise." (ESV)

Personal Reflection or Group Discussion Questions

Open: Share about a current or past neighbor you've had that you really appreciated? What made them a good neighbor?

Read & Discuss: Luke 10:25-37

1. The motive of the lawyer's first question was to put Jesus to the test (v. 25). How is Jesus' reference to the law potentially surprising (vv. 26-27)? How was Jesus' affirmation of the lawyer's answer in verse 28 consistent with the gospel Jesus taught?
2. The lawyer's second question was motivated by a desire to "justify himself" (v. 29). How might the lawyer hope to justify himself through the asking of this question? How might we seek (unhealthily) to justify ourselves in light of God's law?
3. Jesus' story (vv. 30-35) identifies the three individuals who saw an injured man including a priest and Levite. Given that these two men had roles in Jewish religious life, what might have been expected of them in this situation? Why would the implications of this story be intensified by using a Samaritan as the one who acted with compassion (v. 33)?
4. How have your personal priorities hindered you from helping someone in need? What are some common excuses people give today for not helping others in need? When does repentance become an appropriate response to our failure to love our neighbors? What might that look like?
5. Jesus never directly answered the lawyer's question of verse 29. Why do you think Jesus responded by asking, "Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?" (v. 36)? How do you personally react to this question?
6. How might we as Neighborhood Church answer the question, "Who is our neighbor?" How might we show mercy to our neighbors? What are some ways you feel enabled to love our neighbors?

Apply: The parable ends with Jesus saying, "Go and do likewise." What is one concrete action you can take this week to put the message of the Good Samaritan into practice?

Pray: Ask God to help us be better neighbors to those around us and to those God brings into our path.