



RESOURCES FOR GROUPS

TITLE: Loving Others Like Jesus Does

DATE: April 18, 2021

PASSAGE: Luke 10:25-42

SPEAKER: Pastor Brian Berg

COMMUNITY BUILDING:

- Share a time someone was neighborly to you. What did they do? How did that make you feel?
- After last week's sermon, did you notice anyone "hurting" around you? Did you move toward them?

CHRIST-CENTERED DISCUSSION:

Bold indicates zoom friendly OR to be used with spiritual growth partners. *Italicized green text is the leader guide.*

- Review the story of the Good Samaritan found in Luke 10:25-37.
 - Why does Jesus answer the lawyer with a story instead of a straight answer?
 - How do the actions of the lawyer, priest, and Levite match the image of the teachers of the law, hypocrites, Pharisees, and those who will say "Lord, Lord..." Jesus presented in the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 7:21-23)?
 - How might one justify the actions of the priest and the Levite? See Leviticus 21:1-3; Numbers 19:11-22.
Suggestions: They thought he was dead; could be a robber posing as wounded; could be late for their religious duties in Jericho.
 - What may be possible reasons we use to not help the needy?
 - Give some examples from the Gospels of Jesus living out the point of his story.
- **What were the "how" steps Pastor Brian outlined? Do they happen best in a certain order? Which do you struggle with? Are there ways to improve in that area?**
The four steps are (1) look at people in need, by raising awareness to the needs, (2) open your heart to them in empathy, (3) move toward people in need wisely and (4) do something (action step.) Talk about what obstacles arise for you and your group that stop you from getting to the action step.
- Pastor Brian mentioned various groups of people that believers should "cross the road" to be neighborly toward. If you honestly look at yourself, are you uncomfortable moving towards certain people or groups of people?
- How does the Gospel and its impact on your life motivate you to cross the road? Should it?
God moved toward us when we were hurting and lost. Talk about what that restored relationship with God has brought you personally. Is that motivating to you to be loving toward others with the gospel?
- **The Little Picture: Why is Mary's choice considered good by Jesus (Luke 10:41-42)? What is Jesus' point?**
Jesus sees that Mary's heart is undistracted. Sitting undistracted at Jesus' feet will show us all that we need to know about how, what and when to cross the road. It's not that being in the kitchen is a bad thing, but when Martha decided she needed to direct Jesus about what Mary should do, it revealed her distracted heart that ultimately missed the "big picture." Our task is to worship, listen to and obey Jesus, not critique what others may or may not be doing.

FAITHFULLY FOLLOWING:

- Visit the resource page on our website to find ideas on how to Faithfully Follow Jesus this week. [Go there](https://woodlandchurch.org/resources/) individually, as a group, or both! Spur each other on to love and good deeds. (Here's the new url: <https://woodlandchurch.org/resources/>)