



small groups

*Discussion Guide*



# The Good Samaritan

*Luke 10.25-37*

## Ice Breaker

*(5 minutes)*

Have you ever come across someone stranded on the side of the road? Did you stop and help? If so, share your experience.

## Lesson Review

*(40 minutes)*

Andy began his sermon by discussing the history between Jews and Samaritans. They are two people who do not see eye to eye nor get along. This is one of the reasons Jesus' story of the Good Samaritan is so powerful. In this account from Luke's Gospel, the story begins with a lawyer asking Jesus two questions: "what must I do to inherit eternal life" and "who is my neighbor?" These two questions center around the issue of loving God and loving others.

### **Read Luke 10.25-37 and Discuss**

- What is the significance of the lawyer's questions?
- What reasons did the priest and Levite have in avoiding the injured man?
- What are the excuses we give for avoiding people?
- What are ways people rationalize not helping others?

Andy said, "Jesus is our good samaritan... Unlike the Priest and Levite, Jesus doesn't avoid us. He comes to rescue and renew all that was lost and broken!! He has mercy on us and crosses the road from heaven to earth right into our mess and gets His hands dirty. At great cost to Himself on the cross, He serves us while sinners and enemies and He heals our wounds with the oil and wine of grace and forgiveness. Once we were blind, but now we see. He covers our nakedness with his robes of righteousness. He brings us to the Father's House and promises that His "help" is a gift that forever covers any "charges" we incur." Jesus didn't avoid us, but loved us. Likewise, if we are going to be good neighbors, we have to love others, even if it comes at a cost to us."

Andy also said, "What I am determines what I see." "Jesus' parable confronts us with perspectives. The outlook of the thieves was: "What's yours is mine, and I'll take it." That of the Priest and the Levite was "What's mine is mine, and I'll keep it." That of the Good Samaritan was "What's mine is God's, and I'll share it."

### **Discuss**

- What might it cost you to love others around you?
- Which perspective do you think most people have today?
- Why is it challenging to have the perspective of the good samaritan?

## **Application**

*(15 minutes)*

Andy closed with two applications: (1) trust Jesus, our Good Samaritan to heal our wounds; (2) be a good neighbor and bind up another's wounds.

- Which application do you need to take this week?
- How can you bind up another's wounds this week?
- What is the biggest insight or take away you've had from this "Good Neighbors" series?

*On Tuesday evening, August 4, from 7:30pm-9pm in the Alcove, IBC will be hosting a coffee/dessert night to discuss "Next Steps in Neighboring." This interactive follow up to our recent series on "Good Neighbors" will further give you the chance to discuss the Biblical basis for neighboring, as well as review key points from sermons and also additional insights on application from other publications on this topic. This time will help you think through what it means, both in theory and in practice, to love your neighbors as yourself. Simply RSVP via e-mail to [bmckinney@irvingbible.org](mailto:bmckinney@irvingbible.org) to sign up and we'll see you on August 4.*