



Luke 10:25-37 - The Parable of the Good Samaritan (start with 25, it is important to the story)

Deuteronomy 6:4Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. **5** Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

Leviticus 19: 33 “When a foreigner resides among you in your land, do not mistreat them. **34** The foreigner

residing among you must be treated as your native-born. Love them as yourself, for you were foreigners in Egypt. I am the Lord your God.

1 Peter 2:9 But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. **10** Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Icebreaker

Tell about a time someone went out of their way to help you with no expectation of anything in return.

Conversation Starters

1. What is your strategy for responding to and following Jesus when life and times get intense, when there is division, hatred, trouble? How do you stay focused on the way of Jesus and the values of his kingdom? What most often diverts you from this strategy? What most helps you get back on track?
2. Brian suggested we pay attention to an important trait of Jesus, his “**radically generous**” nature. Of these three kinds of generosity which comes easier for you? On a scale of 1 to 10 how essential is a radically generous mindset for a follower of Jesus?
 - a. **Radical generosity of the mind** - seeking to truly understand people, taking the time to listen and consider a perspective.
 - b. **Radical generosity with your resources** - going above and beyond with your time, energy, purpose and talents
 - c. **Radical generosity with your financial resources** - giving where there is a need, without expecting anything in return.
3. Read **Luke 10:25-37** with your group, keeping the concept of radical generosity in mind.
 - a. In verses 25-29 why do you think Jesus answered a question about eternal life by asking what was written in the law?

- b. What types of people are so most likely to pass by, withholding generosity of mine, generosity of resources and generosity of financial resources?
- c. When the expert in the law answered correctly, why do you think Jesus answered do this and you will live?
- d. Why do you think the expert in the law persisted by asking Who is my neighbor?

Brian suggested the early church was able to live radically generous lives in difficult times by adopting an attitude of gratitude. They saw Jesus as the Good Samaritan in the story and that eternal life is a gift offered by Jesus that must be accepted freely without earning. Out of an outpouring of gratitude for the gift, the receiver follows Jesus, obeying him by responding to people like Jesus would respond to people.

4. What is the difference between trying to be a radically generous person **because it is the law** and **responding to the gift of eternal life with an attitude of gratitude** that propels one to be radically generous with neighbors?
5. How does the idea of responding to the gift of life with an attitude of gratitude impact your strategy for responding to and following Jesus when times get tough?

Reread Luke 10:25-37

1. **How do you respond to this passage?**
2. **Is there a central truth you need to apply?**
3. **Pray that God will help you believe and obey.**