



# DISCUSSION GUIDE

## ALL IN - Loving Your Neighbor, part 2 "Loving those you are uncomfortable with"

### GETTING STARTED

What "kinds" of neighbors make you feel most uncomfortable? Why?

What do you think motivates most people to "do good"? Does motivation matter? If so, why?

### QUICK REACTIONS FROM THE MESSAGE

How would you summarize/paraphrase the message in your own words?

What point/idea resonated most with you? Why?

*Dave mentioned that we love God with everything we have and love our neighbor as ourselves when we love God from a place of approval rather than for approval.*

1. What do you think he means by that? How is it connected with Jesus' interaction with the expert in the law in Luke 10? In what way have you seen this to be true in your own life?

2. In what way is the hatred, resentment and prejudice between Jew and Samaritan similar to what we see happening today? How do these things impact how we love our "uncomfortable neighbor"?

3. *Dave said, the religious experts question exposed a deeper question that he was asking Jesus: "What are the limits, boundaries or extent of loving my neighbor?" Or what are the limits or restrictions of who should receive my compassion?*

- Why would this be a ridiculous question considering who Jesus is and what He came to do for us?

What would it mean for us:

To "go over" (make the first move) to someone, like the Samaritan did for the wounded man? (Lk. 10:34)

To "do for one what you'd like to do for everyone"?

To go and do the same?

How is this story grounded in the gospel of Jesus? In what way is Jesus the only "good" Samaritan?

How does this motivate us to love even our uncomfortable neighbor?

How can we love our uncomfortable neighbor while also preserving our "theological" convictions?

### EXPLORE THE PASSAGE [Luke 10:25-37]

(Yes, these questions can seem silly, however, good discussion and interpretation of the Bible begins with having a proper understanding of the basic facts; who, what, when, and where in the text.) Work through this quickly, the answers are fairly obvious.

What did the legal expert ask Jesus? (10:25)

Why did the legal expert ask a question about eternal life? (10:25)

How did Jesus turn the question back on the legal expert? (10:26)

How did the legal expert summarize the demands of the Law? (10:27)

What did the expert ask about loving one's neighbor? (10:29)

What did the legal expert want to do? (10:29)

How did Jesus reply to the question, "Who is my neighbor?" (10:30-35)

What did the priest and the Levite do to help the man who was robbed and beaten? (10:31-32)  
What was the Samaritan's response to what he saw? (10:33-35)  
Why did the Samaritan help the beaten man? (10:33)  
What relationship did Jesus use to characterize the Samaritan's behavior? (10:36)  
How did the legal expert define the neighbor in the parable? (10:37)  
What did Jesus command the expert to do in response to the parable? (10:37)

## **QUESTIONS THAT HELP US UNDERSTAND THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE TEXT**

What different motivations do people have for asking questions about God and of God?  
How effective is this parable in communicating love for one's neighbor?  
What natural inclinations make it easier for you to act like the priest and the Levite than like the Samaritan?  
How practical was the Samaritan's approach to the man in need?  
How does it feel when someone has mercy on you?  
In what ways can we as individuals and as groups of Christians be more like the Samaritan?

## **APPLY THE PASSAGE**

What do we learn about God and about ourselves in these passages?  
What do you need to stop, start or do differently as a result of reading this passage?  
How can we pray for each other?