

Discussion Questions for
“Neighbor Here, Neighbor There: Who is My Neighbor?”
Luke 10:25-37, Pastor Tom Olson, Weekend of November 18, 2018

Ice Breaker: Have you ever helped a stranger – or been helped by a stranger – in a time of distress? What happened?

1. What stands out to you in vv. 25-29?
 - a. What do we learn about the lawyer in these verses?
 - b. What’s interesting about the way Jesus interacts with this man? Is there anything for us to learn from Jesus’ approach?
2. What are the two questions the lawyer asks Jesus?
3. How does the parable of the Good Samaritan answer the lawyer’s *first* question – about eternal life?
 - a. What does this parable teach us about the human condition?
 - b. What does it teach us about Jesus?
 - c. What, then, shall we do to inherit eternal life?
4. How does the parable of the Good Samaritan answer the lawyer’s *second* question – about loving your neighbor?
 - a. What are the key differences between the priest/Levite and the Good Samaritan?
 - b. Can you relate to the priest/Levite? That is, can you see yourself taking the same course of action in the same situation?
 - c. What principles of neighborly love can we learn from the Samaritan?
 - d. How might those principles translate into practical applications in your own circumstances?
5. Compare v. 29 with v. 36:
 - a. How does Jesus reverse the lawyer’s question?
 - b. What’s the impact of this?
 - c. How does it apply to you personally?
6. Besides your literal neighborhood, what other *paths* are you walking where you are called to “prove to be a neighbor” (v. 36)?

Challenge for this week: You received a card at church where you can write down the names of eight neighbors...

- Last week, we were challenged to *pray* for these neighbors.
 - What did you learn from praying for your neighbors?
 - How did God open your eyes?
 - Did God open any doors to love and serve them?
- This week, what tangible steps can you take to begin building – or rebuilding – a relationship with your neighbors?
- Share and brainstorm ideas as a group. How can you encourage each other as a group to implement these ideas between now and the next time that you meet?