



## Study questions

Growing in our love  
for each other

Sunday, Jan 19<sup>th</sup> '20

### 1. Read Luke 10:25 - 37

Watch [www.biblesociety.org.uk/what-we-do/england-and-wales/the-good-samaritan/](http://www.biblesociety.org.uk/what-we-do/england-and-wales/the-good-samaritan/) Comment on this modern take on the story Jesus told.

Jesus' parable about the Good Samaritan shows that the Lawyer was asking the wrong question. Rather than asking "Who is my neighbour?" (an attempt to limit his responsibility under the law) he should have been asking "How can I *be* a good neighbour?"

i) In what ways do we try to lessen our responsibility to respond to those in need?

ii) One way of looking at this story is to see that we are each like the badly beaten man left for dead in the story. Why is it so crucial that we see ourselves this way and see Jesus as our Good Samaritan that rescued us?

iii) Why is it impossible to love and serve others LIKE the Good Samaritan until we realize that we NEED the Good Samaritan?

### 2. We talked about 2 things that we wrestle with that limit our response to others' needs within the church family.

a) our culture's focus on individualism. List some positive & some negative features of this complex issue.

The Bible doesn't really argue for either individualism or collectivism as the correct ideology. Instead, it offers something else altogether, illustrated in the description of the Body of Christ in 1 Corinthians 12. Do you agree?

b) un-grace. (A word coined by Philip Yancey in "What's so amazing about grace.") What spiritual habits can you think of that will strengthen *grace* rather than *un-grace* in our lives?

i) If we are to "be still" and focus on who God is .. what effect will that have on both these areas of struggle?

ii) If someone was to say to you "I think I can have Christian values without Christianity", how would you respond? What dynamic is missed without a personal relationship with God?

### 3. So how can we grow in our love for each other within the church family?

What does Romans 5:5 say is available to us? What example of love for other Christians is found in Romans 5:30?

In what practical ways do you enjoy expressing your care for others?

Spend time praying for people in your group or in the wider church who face particular joys & struggles right now.

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This was the article that was referred to in the sermon:

<https://www.bethinking.org/human-life/the-christian-life-grace-and-identity>