



## Month 2: Like a Good Neighbor...

Based on Luke 10:25-37

*This month we continue our “God-Lived Life” Stewardship Series, with God’s reminders that a God-Lived Life is a life lived for others (service).*

### Connect to Each Other

- The sermon talked about being a good neighbor. Share who your favorite physical neighbor of all time is. What about them made (makes) it so great to be their neighbor?
- (Optional) Share an example of a time you had an opportunity to be a really good neighbor.

### Connect to the Word

- The Pharisees and teachers of the law struggled with understanding God’s Law. Read Mark 2:23-3:6 and then Luke 18:9-27. Describe their misunderstandings. How does that show up in our sermon text (Luke 10:25-37)?
- In the Old Testament God had warned the Israelites about misunderstanding his law. Look up Hosea 6:4-6. What was missing in the Israelites’ sacrifices?

### Connect to Life

- The sermon talked about our struggles to understand the law in our lives and see the beauty of it. What would you say to someone who says, “I know God wants us to show love to others, but how much is enough?”
- How can you explain this story Jesus told to the person who feels like they have no responsibility to show love to a specific person because a) “They’ve hurt me too much.” Or b) “They’ve brought their own problems on themselves.”

## Leader Notes

### Answers for the “Connect to Each other” section:

*Answers will vary. Look for some common trends in the answers*

### Answer for the “Connect to the Word” section:

- There are several different angles this could take. Try to get people talking about how easy it is to view the law/relationship with God the same way they did.
  - **Mark 2: 23-27** – **looking to the letter of the law instead of the purpose/spirit.** *They saw the law as something they could keep if they did the right things and added laws to make it easier to keep.*
  - **Mark 3:1-6** – **They saw law as part of their worth/value.** *They wanted to be known as people who kept the law. Their motive was their own pride instead of the good of others. This shows when Jesus demonstrates love and they want to kill him.*
  - **Luke 18:9-14** – **Jesus describes the Pharisees as those “looking down on everyone else” and gives clear example of how that turns out—taking pride in own obedience for my sake instead of compassion on others and use obedience to help others.**
  - **Luke 18:18-27** – **He’s thinking it’s about his doing.** *Jesus shows it’s about priorities.*
  - **Sermon text** – **Same thing—he wanted to know where he could make it about himself, how much did he have to do to be good, to get what he wanted?**
- **OT** –
  - *Their love was like mist—words faded.*
  - *God wants love—not just going through motions of sacrifice*
  - *Consider how they didn’t learn this lesson. Consider how we don’t.*

### Answer for the “Connect to Life” section:

- **How much is enough?** *That’s not the point. It’s not about what I need to do but what I get to do—love has to motivate it, not “what’s right?”—that’s why the priest and Levite missed the boat—they were trying to do the “right” thing according to the law, instead of being led by love for that person. **Jesus loved to the end (not looking for only a certain amount of love)***
- *Love always is a sacrifice, so it hurts. It’s not about what I get out of it—but what I can do to help. Helping the robbed man was not convenient for Samaritan, but it’s what was needed.*
- *Only by the grace of God I am not in same situation—whether that’s the man beaten by side of road or the drug addict, etc. Help is not based on worth or relationship (The unlikely Samaritan was the one who helped).*