



DO FOR ONE

THE GOOD SAMARITAN

Matt VanCleave

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GROUP ICE BREAKER

Share a story of a time when someone reached out to someone else when it was not the proper or popular thing to do.

REVIEW LAST WEEK'S NEXT STEPS

What, if any, next step did you commit to last week, how did it go?

- I will not separate myself from people who are not like me.
- I will repent for the ways I separate myself from others.
- I will work to tear down the walls of hostility.
- I will cultivate a relationship with someone not like me.
- I will watch/read some of the resources Blue Oaks has provided.

THIS WEEK'S SERMON RECAP

When asked what was the greatest commandment, Jesus responded all you need to do is continually love God and continually love your neighbor with all that you are- with the totality of your entire being. Jesus lays out a command to an open-ended lifestyle that requires an unconditional love for both God and people. In the story of the Good Samaritan, Jesus reveals two types of sin, the sin of the robbers that stole from the man and beat him, and the sin of neglecting the man in need. The lack of compassion from the priest and the Levite is actually a worse evil. There was no other reason to stop, except for compassion. In compassion, the why will not change our actions. How many Christians refuse to extend mercy when they discover that the person in need has caused his own problem? Compassion doesn't begin by defining its objects. Compassion discovers its objects. We must be a neighbor to anyone who is in need. We are all the wounded man on the road, and Jesus is the Samaritan who, at great cost, and in compassion, stopped by the side of the road and picked us up and took care of us. Understanding how we fit into the story is what gives us the heart of compassion to then turn and do what Jesus says at the end of the passage, "Go and do likewise."

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What is something you can do for one that you wish you could do for everyone?
2. This series has been about restorative justice, which means advocating and helping the vulnerable, the marginalized, in society and the world. Who are these people? What are some ways we can reach out to them?



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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (CONT)

3. In the book of Luke, the story of the Good Samaritan is prefaced by an expert of the law who questions Jesus, but his real intention is to trick him. What is Jesus's response to this man and how does he use this as a teaching opportunity?
4. Read Deuteronomy 6:27. What is the commandment set forth here? What are some ways we can do outreach, to those around us, especially in these isolating times?
5. Does the expert live the life to back up Deuteronomy 6:27? Is his intellectual stance in line with the way he lives his life? Does he really love people, or is he just being theologically correct and what's the difference?
6. The expert wants Jesus to give him a checklist, why? Instead Jesus lays out a lifestyle of unconditional love to God and people. Why is this a challenge for the expert and for us?
7. In the story of *The Good Samaritan*, what are some of the reasons the priest and the Levite pass by the injured man considering compassion and Jewish Law?
8. What does the Samaritan risk by being compassionate? Discuss the laws he violates in light of his actions? What does he gain?
9. Who are we in this story? What is our response to God and to our neighbors in need with this realization?

NEXT STEPS FOR THIS WEEK (COMMIT TO GROW)

- I will do for one what I wish I could do for everyone.
- I will ask God to reveal who he wants me to help.
- I will reach out with compassion to those in need.
- I will extend compassion regardless of how the person got in the situation.

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

- Luke 10:25-37