

## You Spell Love G-I-V-E | Luke 10:25-37 Sermon Discussion Participant Guide

**Purpose of Discussion:** To love our neighbors.

**Icebreaker:** What is a brand that you have become loyal to? Why?

### Discussion

1. How are some ways Christians in our day and age tarnish “the brand” of Christianity? Or stated differently, how do we as Christians today give off a different impression of Jesus than what the Bible does?

### Read:

#### Luke 10:25-29

<sup>25</sup> One day an expert in religious law stood up to test Jesus by asking him this question: “Teacher, what should I do to inherit eternal life?”

<sup>26</sup> Jesus replied, “What does the law of Moses say? How do you read it?”

<sup>27</sup> The man answered, “‘You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your strength, and all your mind.’ And, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’”

<sup>28</sup> “Right!” Jesus told him. “Do this and you will live!”

<sup>29</sup> The man wanted to justify his actions, so he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”

2. How does the religious leader’s initial question reveal about his heart?
3. What should the man’s response be towards the two great commandments? How does he respond instead?

### Read:

#### Luke 10:30-37

<sup>30</sup> Jesus replied with a story: “A Jewish man was traveling from Jerusalem down to Jericho, and he was attacked by bandits. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him up, and left him half dead beside the road.

# THE **crossing** **small groups**

<sup>31</sup> "By chance a priest came along. But when he saw the man lying there, he crossed to the other side of the road and passed him by. <sup>32</sup> A Temple assistant walked over and looked at him lying there, but he also passed by on the other side.

<sup>33</sup> "Then a despised Samaritan came along, and when he saw the man, he felt compassion for him. <sup>34</sup> Going over to him, the Samaritan soothed his wounds with olive oil and wine and bandaged them. Then he put the man on his own donkey and took him to an inn, where he took care of him. <sup>35</sup> The next day he handed the innkeeper two silver coins, telling him, 'Take care of this man. If his bill runs higher than this, I'll pay you the next time I'm here.'

<sup>36</sup> "Now which of these three would you say was a neighbor to the man who was attacked by bandits?" Jesus asked.

<sup>37</sup> The man replied, "The one who showed him mercy."  
Then Jesus said, "Yes, now go and do the same."

4. What would have been shocking about this parable?
5. How does Jesus answer the question the religious leader asked: "Who is my neighbor?"

## Read:

[1 John 3:16-18](#)

<sup>16</sup> We know what real love is because Jesus gave up his life for us. So we also ought to give up our lives for our brothers and sisters. <sup>17</sup> If someone has enough money to live well and sees a brother or sister in need but shows no compassion—how can God's love be in that person?

<sup>18</sup> Dear children, let's not merely say that we love each other; let us show the truth by our actions.

6. If Christians should be known for love, how is it striking you as a way God is calling you to love a neighbor?

## Read:

[John 3:16](#)

<sup>16</sup> "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

# THE **crossing** **small groups**

7. None of us love God and love our neighbor in all the ways we should, but how does the grace of the gospel not only comforts us, but move us to help others?

## **Sharing and Prayer:**

Today, we'll have three times for people to express their own short prayers.

First, open with an open time for people to **give thanks** for all the ways God has loved us through what he has done for us in Jesus.

Second, pray for us that **God would change us** in ways to better love our neighbors.

Thirdly, pray for **specific needs of "neighbors"** that came to your mind in this lesson and perhaps specifically **Love Columbia** and **families** who are struggling with homelessness and finding safe, adequate housing.