

WON'T YOU BE MY NEIGHBOR

January 30, 2022 | Luke 10:25-37 | Pastor Michael Foster

- **Jesus challenges the way we think of others**
 - Are you willing to be questioned and challenged by Jesus?
 - Are you willing to evaluate personal prejudices, cultural assumptions, and social theories in the light of biblical theology?
 - Are you seeing categories or individuals?
 - Are you taking responsibility for the people you can help and the difference you can make?
- **Jesus calls us to have mercy on others**
 - Help those who are hurting
 - Be especially attentive to the marginalized, vulnerable, and overlooked
 - Do good for others not in place of the gospel, but for the sake of the gospel
- **Jesus requires a love beyond our own ability**
 - We all fall short of His standard of perfect love
 - Our only hope for justification and salvation is to trust in Jesus as Savior
 - We can love others only because He first loved us!

FOR FURTHER REFLECTION

- Meditate on Ephesians 2:11-22; Galatians 3:26-28; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Revelation 5:9-10.
- Read Sherry Lynn's article: www.allmomdoes.com/2020/05/19/the-race-discussion-and-the-ominous-absence-of-calvary/
- Read *Kingdom Race Theology* by Tony Evans.
- Read this article by Randy Alcorn: www.epm.org/blog/2020/Jun/8/think-about-color-skin
- Read this article about "gracism": www.crosswalk.com/church/pastors-or-leadership/how-to-turn-racism-into-gracism-11543799.html
- Read about the Civil Rights Acts of 1964: www.history.com/topics/black-history/civil-rights-act

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What stood out to you most from the message?
2. Now that we have walked through it together, how would you summarize the parable of the Good Samaritan, and the lessons Jesus wants us to take away from it?
3. What can we learn from the way that Jesus often answered questions with another question?
4. Share about a time when you have sought to justify yourself with regard to your attitude toward others. How did the Lord convict you about this? (Consider Luke 18:9-14)
5. Share an example of when you have gotten to know an individual and found that person to be different from your expectations? Are there any friendships you have with people from different cultural backgrounds than you that are especially meaningful? Explain.
6. What are some prejudices you have experienced against you in the course of your life? And what are some prejudices you have been convicted of toward others in the course of your life?
7. What might you say to someone who has experienced prejudice or racial hatred of some kind? How might you encourage them?
8. Read Galatians 2:11-21. How was Peter at risk of "not acting in line with the truth of the gospel" (v. 14), and why was this such a problem? What can we learn from this?
9. Read Galatians 3:26-28. How does our Christian identity affect our Christian unity?
10. How would you say that your life is mattering to hurting people right now? Share some ways of how you are specifically seeking to "love your neighbor" by God's grace and with God's help.