

THE QUESTION BEHIND THE QUESTION

GUIDED SERMON NOTES

Luke 10:25-37

Follow the sermon. Fill in the blanks. Write the names and responses the Lord brings to mind.

1 THE QUESTION BEHIND THE QUESTION

The lawyer asks, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" Then, "Who is my neighbor?" But Luke tells us what is happening underneath: "...desiring to _____ himself." (Luke 10:29)
Instead of allowing the command to examine him, he begins _____.

2 WHAT DOES MERCY ASK?

SELF-JUSTIFICATION

- ☐ Does this person qualify?
- ☐ Do they deserve my compassion?
- ☐ Is this really my responsibility?

MERCY

What does _____
require of me now
that this person
is in front of me?

SELF-JUSTIFICATION IS DEVOID OF MERCY.

3 SEEING WAS NEVER THE DISTINCTION



COMPASSION CLOSES THE DISTANCE.

Who have I learned to pass? _____

4 HAS A WOUND BECOME A CATEGORY?

One chapter earlier, a Samaritan village had rejected Jesus.
But Jesus refused to let the wound become _____.
Someone I may be seeing primarily through a wound, label, history, disagreement, or category: _____

Self-justification
needs categories.
Mercy sees people.

5 THE GOSPEL CLOSES THE DISTANCE



The Samaritan came to where the wounded man was.
JESUS CAME TO WHERE WE WERE.
"while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8)
Mercy _____ us.
Then mercy _____ through us.

That is
the order.

MY RESPONSE TODAY

- REVEAL**
Jesus, show me...

Where have I been justifying distance?
Who have I turned into a category?
Who have I learned to pass?
- RECEIVE**
Jesus, remind me...

I do not have to justify myself before You.
Before I could close the distance—You did.
What mercy from Jesus do I need to remember today?
- RESPOND**
Jesus, when mercy places a person in my road...

Give me eyes to _____.
Compassion that _____.
And courage to _____.
Who might find a neighbor in me this week?

SERMON NOTES

THE QUESTION BEHIND THE QUESTION

THE WEEKLY PATH

Luke 10:25-37

Read each passage in context. Ask: Who wrote it? To whom? What is happening?
How does the surrounding passage shape its meaning?

1 MONDAY



WHAT AM I TRYING TO PROVE?

READ

Luke 10:25-29
Romans 5:6-11

DISCUSS

What does the lawyer's second question—"Who is my neighbor?"—reveal about his attempt to justify himself? Where are you most tempted to build a case for yourself?

APPLY

Name one area where you have been defending yourself before God. Bring it to Jesus rather than building your case.

2 TUESDAY



HAS A WOUND BECOME A CATEGORY?

READ

Luke 9:51-56
Luke 10:30-37

DISCUSS

What does Jesus show by making a Samaritan the one who shows mercy, just one chapter after a Samaritan village rejected Him? Is there someone you are seeing mainly through a wound?

APPLY

Name one person or group that may have become defined by a wound, history, label, or disagreement. Ask Jesus for the grace to see a person, not just the wound.

3 WEDNESDAY



WHO HAVE I LEARNED TO PASS?

READ

Luke 10:30-37
1 John 3:16-18

DISCUSS

In Luke 10, what does the Samaritan actually do after he sees the wounded man? According to 1 John 3, what is incomplete about love that remains only in words?

APPLY

Identify one person you regularly encounter but tend to move past. This week, close one small piece of the distance—speak, listen, help, or learn their name.

4 THURSDAY



WHAT WILL MERCY COST ME?

READ

Luke 10:33-37
Luke 6:27-36

DISCUSS

What specific costs do you see in the Samaritan's mercy? How do Jesus' words in Luke 6 challenge the way you think about people who may not repay you?

APPLY

Choose one mercy action that will cost you something real (time, convenience, resources, comfort, or the first move in a strained relationship). What will you actually do?

5 FRIDAY



WHAT HAPPENS AFTER MERCY REACHES ME?

READ

John 1:14-18
Romans 5:6-11
Luke 10:36-37

DISCUSS

How do John 1 and Romans 5 describe God moving toward people? Why does receiving mercy have to come before Jesus' command, "You go, and do likewise"? How does obedience change when you know mercy has already reached you?

APPLY

Think about the people you will naturally encounter in the next seven days. Who may already be in your road? What would it look like for that person to find a neighbor in you? Ask Jesus for eyes to see, compassion that moves, and courage to obey.

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MONDAY

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