

# Membership Covenant

The 5 G's  
Groups  
Giving  
Gifts  
Grace  
Growth

## A Guide for Spiritual Formation

Text for the Week: Luke 10:25-37

Message for the Week: Costly Love

Sunday, December 10

### Opening:

What is one low (a bad thing) and one high (a good thing) that happened to you this past week? Write them down and take turns sharing them with the others in your group.

Where have you seen the work of the Holy Spirit in your life this past week?

What is the most memorable thing that someone has done for you?

### Preparation:

Spend 1-2 minutes in silence with God to center and prepare yourself for your time with God today.

### Read:

Read / Have two people in your group read [Luke 10:25-37](#) out loud.

[Clicking the link will bring you to multiple translations.]

As you read and/or listen to the text being read, circle, take note of, highlight, or underline what words, phrases, or ideas grabbed your attention and heart in these verses?

Write them down below and/or share them with those who are with you.

## Respond / Reflect:

How would you characterize the actions of the Samaritan in this story?

What do you think the priest and the Levite were concerned about? How did this affect their actions?

What needs to happen for us to see and take pity instead of seeing and passing by?

Why is loving your neighbor such an important piece of gaining eternal life?

Who are the people in your life that when you see them (or are going to see them) you groan and go ugh? What does the command to "love your neighbor" mean for your relationship with this person? What implications does this have for our salvation / eternal life?

Luke 10:25-37 is about "seeing." What do we need to see? Make a list.

## Try It:

Continue engaging with the "Random Acts of Kindness" Advent Calendar that the youth group created.

## Prayer:

Spend time in prayer with/for the other people who are with you. Pray this prayer together:

Father, Help me/us to see past myself/ourselves to those who are in need of the love of Jesus. May I/we willing forego my/our time, money and myself/ourselves so that my/our neighbor encounters Jesus. AMEN

## Missional/Spiritual Practice: Giving

I commit to giving generously of my time for the building of Christ's Church and Kingdom.

I commit to giving generously of my talents for the building of Christ's Church and Kingdom.

I commit to giving generously of my treasures (financial resources) for the building of Christ's Church and Kingdom.

I commit to giving generously of my testimony for the building of Christ's Church and Kingdom.

How are you giving generously in these areas? If not, why not? What needs to change?

10<sup>25</sup> On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

<sup>26</sup> "What is written in the Law?" he replied. "How do you read it?"

<sup>27</sup> He answered, "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind'<sup>(a)</sup>; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'<sup>(b)</sup>"

<sup>28</sup> "You have answered correctly," Jesus replied. "Do this and you will live."

<sup>29</sup> But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

<sup>30</sup> In reply Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. <sup>31</sup> A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. <sup>32</sup> So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. <sup>33</sup> But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. <sup>34</sup> He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. <sup>35</sup> The next day he took out two denarii<sup>(c)</sup> and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.'

<sup>36</sup> "Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?"

<sup>37</sup> The expert in the law replied, "The one who had mercy on him."

Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise."

#### Footnotes

a. [Luke 10:27](#) Deut. 6:5

b. [Luke 10:27](#) Lev. 19:18

c. [Luke 10:35](#) A denarius was the usual daily wage of a day laborer (see Matt. 20:2).

#### The Message

10<sup>25</sup> Just then a religion scholar stood up with a question to test Jesus. "Teacher, what do I need to do to get eternal life?"

<sup>26</sup> He answered, "What's written in God's Law? How do you interpret it?"

<sup>27</sup> He said, "That you love the Lord your God with all your passion and prayer and muscle and intelligence—and that you love your neighbor as well as you do yourself."

<sup>28</sup> "Good answer!" said Jesus. "Do it and you'll live."

<sup>29</sup> Looking for a loophole, he asked, "And just how would you define 'neighbor'?"

<sup>30-32</sup> Jesus answered by telling a story. "There was once a man traveling from Jerusalem to Jericho. On the way he was attacked by robbers. They took his clothes, beat him up, and went off leaving him half-dead. Luckily, a priest was on his way down the same road, but when he saw him he angled across to the other side. Then a Levite religious man showed up; he also avoided the injured man.

<sup>33-35</sup> "A Samaritan traveling the road came on him. When he saw the man's condition, his heart went out to him. He gave him first aid, disinfecting and bandaging his wounds. Then he lifted him onto his donkey, led him to an inn, and made him comfortable. In the morning he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take good care of him. If it costs any more, put it on my bill—I'll pay you on my way back.'

<sup>36</sup> "What do you think? Which of the three became a neighbor to the man attacked by robbers?"

<sup>37</sup> "The one who treated him kindly," the religion scholar responded.

Jesus said, "Go and do the same."