



Life Group  
Discussion  
Guide  
Week 1  
8/17/25

**Message Summary:** In a powerful message on the art of neighboring, Pastor Tara Beth challenges us to confront our tendency to shrink our circles of compassion. Through a fresh look at the Good Samaritan, she reveals how true neighbor-love crosses boundaries, demands action, and always costs something. Drawing from her own 2 AM encounter with a troubled teen, Pastor Tara Beth illustrates that our neighbor isn't defined by zip code or social status—but simply by their need for mercy.

**Conversation Starter:** Would you say your neighborhood is one where people regularly get together, or more of a 'close the garage door and keep to themselves' kind of place?

**Prayer:**

Open our hearts to Your word, Your truth, and Your direction.

**Read the passage together:**

Luke 10:25-37

### 3-Question Study Method

Use this method to discuss the passage

1. What is the passage about?
2. What lesson do I learn?
3. How will I apply this to my life?

### Discussion Questions:

- Read Luke 10:25-37. The lawyer tried to "justify himself" by asking Jesus, "Who is my neighbor?" In what ways do we try to justify limiting who we show mercy to in our own lives?
- Being a neighbor isn't about proximity but about showing mercy to those in need. How might this change the way we view our responsibility to help others, even those outside our immediate community?
- The priest and Levite both avoided the injured man. What are some "religious" or "practical" reasons we use today to avoid helping others in need?
- How does the Samaritan's response challenge cultural and social boundaries both in biblical times and today? What boundaries do we need to cross to show Christ's love?
- The Samaritan went "above and beyond" by paying for the man's care and promising to return. How does this challenge our tendency to do the minimum when helping others?
- The sermon mentions that "neighbor love always costs something." What are some costs you've experienced or fear experiencing when showing mercy to others? How does this affect your willingness to help?
- Jesus concludes the parable by saying "Go and do likewise" (Luke 10:37). What is one specific way you can "go and do likewise" this week in your neighborhood or workplace?
- The sermon states that "mercy is compassion in action." What's the difference between feeling compassion and showing mercy? Can you share an example from your own life?

Closing Prayer: Thank you for showing us through Your Son Jesus what it truly means to be a neighbor. We confess that like the lawyer in the parable, we often try to limit our circle of compassion and seek exceptions to Your command to love our neighbors. Open our eyes to see the people You've placed in our path who need mercy. Give us the courage to cross boundaries, to step out of our comfort zones, and to love sacrificially as the Good Samaritan did. We pray this in Jesus' Name, Amen.