

taking action!

Small Group Material

ON THE JOURNEY
studentlife

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Turning Lost Students into Christ-Centered Labourers

Knowing and Following Christ – Following Jesus as a Way of Life

What Are the Questions?:

Luke 10:25-37

LAUNCH

Jesus was a story teller. In fact many of the teachings we have from Jesus come to us in some form of story. One of the most famous stories Jesus ever told was about a guy we now call “the Good Samaritan”. Today we want to look at this story, and the context within which Jesus tells it. It reveals a lot about how we should live as Christians, and it gives us a practical example of what it looks like to walk as Jesus did. But before we read this story, why do you think Jesus often used stories to teach those around Him?

EXPLORE

Read Luke 10:25-37

1. Scripture requires us to love God with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength. What does it look like in our lives to love God with everything we have?
2. How does it look like to love God through our studies?
3. How about in our working lives. How might we live this out in that situation too? (see also Colossians 3:17; 1 Corinthians 10:31)
4. What things get in the way of us loving God with all that we have?
5. Jesus’ parable of the Good Samaritan is so famous that almost everyone has heard of it, Christian, and Non-Christian alike. What makes this story so memorable?
6. Priests and Levites were well respected by the Jews. Why do you think Jesus choose to use these two characters in the story as people who did not help the man?
7. Samaritans are hated by the Jews. Why do you think Jesus choose a Samaritan to be the hero of this story?
8. What is the real message of this story?
9. What might be a modern day equivalent story of the good Samaritan within our culture?
10. The expert in the law said the one who showed mercy was a true neighbour to the man. Jesus told him to go and do likewise. How can we as followers of Christ “go and do likewise” in our context?

APPLY

1. What changes might I need to make in my life, empowered by the Holy Spirit, to show that I love Him with all my heart, mind, soul, and strength?
2. What opportunities are there for us to show mercy and love to others at university?
3. What are two practical ways I will personally try to love those around me this week?

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For the Leader:

- The aim of this study is to get people to think about Christianity as a way of life. We want them to realise it's not just something to believe, but also something to be lived out. The story of the Good Samaritan and the message of the great commandment is a great way to address this.
- This study should challenge students about loving people around them with their actions and not just sharing their faith.
- This study should also challenge them to think about how being a follower of Jesus effects every area of their life and everything they do, from their studies to their relationships.

What are the Answers?:

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| 1. Let the group discuss | 7. Samaritans and Jews hated each other. Jesus was showing that it doesn't matter what you think about another person, or how much you find them difficult, we are called to love them no matter what. |
| 2. Let the group discuss | |
| 3. Everything we do matters to God. It matters how we do everything in life. All of our lives is an opportunity to glorify Christ | 8. We should love people, no matter who they are. This is Gods call for us regardless of status in life. |
| 4. Let the group discuss | |
| 5. Let the group discuss | 9. Let the group discuss |
| 6. It's because they were perceived as the most righteous people of the day. Even Christian leaders can get this wrong. We are all called to love our neighbours no matter what our status | 10. Let the group discuss |

What's the Big Idea?

As Followers of Christ, our relationship with Jesus changes everything. It's not just something we happen to believe in, it's a way of life. God calls us to love him with everything (our heart, our soul, our mind, and our strength). Everything we do matters in Gods eyes, from the way we treat others, to the things we are studying at Uni.

What's the Problem?

Some Christians do not realise that God cares about their whole life. They believe in Christ, but they don't love others. They can share their faith, but they don't live it out.

What's Our Response?

We should love God with everything we have, and not just subscribe to being Christians. We must love others as Christ has loved us, and we must see everything thing we do as a chance to glorify him through our actions.