LIFE Group Sermon Questions
The Center of Everything: The Good Samaritan
Pastor Josh Parsons
November 1, 2026
Luke 10:25-37

THE ORCHARD

Sermon Outline

The story of the good Samaritan is:
I. A mirror (Luke 10:25-29)
II. A picture (Luke 10:30-35)
III. A pattern (Luke 10:36-37)

Discussion Questions
1. What did you learn today from the Scripture passage(s) that you didn't know before? What is something that hit you in a fresh way?

2. What are some details in the story Jesus tells (Luke 10:30-35) that were new to you or that you hadn't noticed before?

3. Why do you think we so often frame our relationship with God by what we do (see the lawyer's question in Luke 10:25)? What's the downside of doing that? Is there any upside? Why or why not?

4. Why do you think God gave commands that were/are impossible to obey (see Romans 3:20 and Galatians 2:16)?

5. Take a few minutes to think through some examples of commands God gives in his Word. How have you fallen short? (Remember that God is after more than just lip-service—he cares about the heart's motives!). In what ways do you try to "justify" yourself before God (or with others)?

6. Pastor Josh summarized the story of the good Samaritan as the story of **a very great need met by a very great love that comes at a very great cost**. That story is *also* a *picture* of the Gospel and what Jesus has done for us. Where would you go in the Bible to "see" references to

- …our great need?
- …his great love?
- …the price Jesus paid?

7. What if we miss one of those three elements of the Gospel message (our need, Christ's love, the cost of our salvation)? What do we lose? How would that affect the other two?

8. In your own words, why did it “cost” Jesus his life to save us from our sins?

9. Why is it important to consider Points 1 and 2 before Point 3? In other words, why should we couch the command of Jesus in the reality of the Gospel? What might happen if we don’t?

10. Notice that in Luke 10:36, Jesus doesn’t actually answer the question the lawyer asked in Luke 10:29. In Luke 10:29, the lawyer asked who qualified as his neighbor. In Luke 10:36, Jesus is speaking about *being* a neighbor. In what ways are you guilty of trying to “parse” who you are and aren’t commanded to love? What are some reasons we sometimes give for excusing ourselves from loving our neighbor?

11. Pastor Josh offered three places to start in “going and doing likewise” (Luke 10:37): look for needs, pray for love, embrace the cost. Which is most applicable to you? Why?

12. Who comes to mind first when thinking about loving your neighbor? What might it cost you to love them? How might thinking about Jesus help you love them anyway?