

## GroupWork

Bible Study Discussion Starters

*Life application materials for use in Life Groups, home devotions, and other small groups.*

---

1. There is nothing like the thrill of discovery! When was the last time you went exploring? What did you explore? A forest? A park? A mall? What did you find?
2. Read the message text (Luke 10:25-37) and look at the message outline to remind you of the message.
  - a. What was memorable from the message? Share it with the group.
  - b. What question did the message raise in your mind? Discuss it as a group.

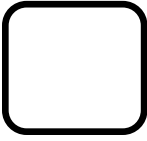
In Acts 10 Peter explores. He goes to a gentile's house—something he has never done before. He doesn't know what he'll find when he gets there. But in humility, he follows Jesus' instructions, he serves with love, and he discovers something wonderful: The good news is not just for Jewish people like him, but for all people!

3. Before asking Peter to take the big step of going to a gentile's house, Jesus gives Peter a vision to prepare him. But it didn't sink in right away, he had to see it 3 times (Acts 10:16) and then he was still wondering what it meant. Peter didn't understand yet that the Old Testament laws about foods and people being unclean were pointing ahead to Jesus. He thought those laws were permanent. But after the vision, when gentiles showed up at his door, he was willing to go with them. God had opened his eyes to a truth he didn't expect. How has God done that for you? Do you have a memory of God making a truth clear to you after you misunderstood it for a long time?
4. The Spirit said to Peter, "Go!" (verse 20) but didn't tell him why, or where or for how long. But Peter knew the voice and so he went with a humble heart ready to serve (vs 21, 26, 29) and that gave him incredible experiences and opportunities.

Trusting without knowing everything + humble service = amazing spiritual opportunities

When have you experienced that?

5. Reread vs 36-43. Peter didn't know what he would find when he got to Cornelius' house, but when he got there, he found out that what they really needed was the simple gospel message—sins forgiven because of the death and resurrection of Jesus. Sometimes we worry that we need the right words to say, but the simplest words are best. Has someone ever shared the simple gospel with you when you were struggling? How did it make you feel?
6. It must have been such a joy for Peter to see Cornelius and his family and friends baptized (10:47-48). It is beautiful to witness a person being adopted into God's family and especially so when you got to be a part of bringing that person to Christ. Do you have a favorite baptism memory you would like to share? Is there anyone you could pray for who hasn't received the blessing of baptism?



# NoteSheet

Sermon Outline

Take notes during the sermon to help you remember the main points.

---

## The Need for Followership: Followers Are Loving Servants Have I Loved My Neighbor as Myself?

Luke 10:25-37 (Bible page 1040)

**Introduction:** “And who is my neighbor?”

### I. I cannot keep God’s command to love.

- A. If anyone insists they must do \_\_\_\_\_ something to be saved, Jesus has nothing to add.
- B. If we **could** keep the L\_\_\_\_\_, we would be rewarded with eternal life.
- C. Both our enemies and our friends are our n\_\_\_\_\_.
- D. Jesus has p\_\_\_\_\_ loved his enemies, sacrificing himself on the cross for all.

### II. Jesus did nothing but love—even his enemies.

- A. It’s easy to convince ourselves that we love our neighbor by our works of c\_\_\_\_\_.
- B. Is s\_\_\_\_\_ -h\_\_\_\_\_ giving really loving our enemy?
- C. The Samaritan put this man before h\_\_\_\_\_ and his needs before his o\_\_\_\_\_.
- D. How miserably we’ve f\_\_\_\_\_ to love our neighbor as ourselves!
- E. Only Jesus l\_\_\_\_\_ us as himself—and perhaps even more.

### III. I learn tireless love from Jesus.

- A. The Samaritan didn’t t\_\_\_\_\_ of loving his neighbor.
- B. Jesus tells us to go and do l\_\_\_\_\_.
- C. The Apostle Paul describes and defines loving servanthood in I Corinthians \_\_\_\_\_.
- D. We can love with the s\_\_\_\_\_ Jesus provides.
- E. When we fail to love, Jesus credits his perfect record of love to our a\_\_\_\_\_.

**Conclusion:** “Go and do likewise.”

### My Next Steps

**Memorize** Luke 23:34 – *Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.*

**Read** Mark 10:2-16 for next week’s *The Need for Followership* sermon on *Christ Followers Know How to Love Their Families*.

**Look** for tangible ways to love your neighbor as yourself.

**Pray** for God to soften your heart to love your enemy as yourself.