

5 Love Comes to Town Week 5 Like a Good Neighbor
Week of October 26 2025
Luke 10: 25-37
Discussion Guide

ICEBREAKER

Share a time when someone went out of their way to bless you. Was it a surprise party, an extravagant gift, a financial gift, or time out of their schedule to just be with you? What did that feel like? How did you respond?

A APPLY THE BIBLE

In the parable of the Good Samaritan, Jesus explains the term “neighbors.” Jesus teaches us that we cannot limit the extent of our love. Anytime we limit the word neighbor to a group smaller than everyone, we’ve missed the meaning of Jesus’ words. And if we are honest, it’s easy to limit our love when we let differences, fears and hurts reduce the category of neighbor. While we seek to have God’s heart of love for everyone, love is more than an attitude. It must be translated into practical action. One of the issues we all struggle with is how to have a love for everyone while recognizing that we cannot meet everyone’s needs. As always, Jesus is our teacher and our example and even goes so far as to promise to empower us to love this way!

Have someone read Acts 1:8

Q1. Where do we get the power to love our neighbors?

Q2. Think of your own neighborhood where you live. Do you know the families who live near you? On your block? In your community? What obstacles in our modern lives make it difficult to even ‘know’ our literal neighbors?

Q3. What is one practical step we can take to begin to love others?

We want to be more intentional in the way we know and love our neighbors; so we look at Jesus who simply loved people as the opportunity arose during the normal traffic patterns of his life. Wherever he was, he loved the people who came into his path. When he was with the disciples, he showed love to them! When he was with the Pharisees, he loved them! Often, he did this very differently! To follow Jesus’ example is to **make the choice to love in the opportunities that arise in our everyday journey**: as you support your kids’ sports teams, commute on the train, go grocery shopping, at the copy machine at work, or even in the hallways at your school. We don’t have to be frustrated by the inability to love everyone and therefore shrink back from

loving anyone. Jesus doesn't want us to respond out of guilt, he wants us to respond out of love. 1 John 4:11 says: "Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another."

Q4. Think of examples in Scripture where Jesus acted in love and study them together as a group.[Here are some examples to get you started: look at Luke 8:22; Luke 7:11-15; Matthew 8:1-3.]

Q5. Can you see a pattern in the way Jesus interacts with people?

Q6. What stops you from caring for others? Is it fear, sacrifice, time or something else?

Q7. How can we show love to people right in front of us?

ⓑ BEAR BURDENS

Make the choice to love the one that God puts in your path today, trusting that the Holy Spirit will show up and show YOU exactly how—and who—he wants you to love today. Pray together as a group to have eyes to see as Jesus sees, to have a heart to love as Jesus loves, and take action as Jesus calls you.

ⓒ CHANCE TO SERVE

Woodside's Church Has Left the Building Day of Service is coming up NEXT WEEK – Sunday, November 2nd.

Are you and your group members signed up? It's not too late!