

SERMON SERIES: Invest & Invite
SCRIPTURE: Luke 10:25-37
SPEAKER: Mike Woodruff
DATE: May 20-21, 2017

Small Group Discussion Guide

for leaders (see below for participants' guide)

Gathering Time

- Make sure newcomers are welcomed and engaged in conversation
- Offer a snack and drink if the setting is right (i.e. a home)
- Arrange seating so everyone in the group can see each other

Getting Acquainted

- **What is one takeaway from your last small group meeting? How are you doing putting it into practice in your life?**
 - As routine opener to group meetings, this question encourages individuals to apply your discussions in their lives. It also brings continuity & intentionality from meeting to meeting.
- **Today we're talking about the mission Christ has given all his followers. Describe a time in your life when you were on a mission to do something. What was it, and what did you do to accomplish it?**
 - E.g. "I was on a mission to graduate high school with a 4.0 (or maybe a 2.0)." "I was on a mission to finish a marathon." Etc.
 - This question sets the stage for the Bible Exploration and helps people get to know one another on a personal level.

Bible Exploration

- **Read Luke 10:25-37 as a group and reflect on it as teaching. What statements stand out and why? Discuss.**
- **Why do you think the Samaritan stopped to care for the wounded man? Why do you think the other men didn't?**
- **Which character in this parable most likely would have been you? Explain.**
- **In his sermon, Mike pointed out three things to notice. How can these points encourage you to live on mission to be an agent of Jesus' love and grace?**
 - Jesus teaches us not to limit who we love. We're called to reach out to people of every race, status and situation in life.
 - Jesus gives a big, practical, all-inclusive definition of love—meeting a person's physical, material and financial needs.

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- Jesus himself is the Great Samaritan who dies on the cross to deliver us from our brokenness and sin.
- Jesus instructs us to tell others about who he is and what he does.
- **What is one takeaway from this week's discussion you can begin applying to your life this week? Be specific, and be prepared to share next time how it went.**

Prayer

- Invite the group to participate in a time of "conversational" prayer. Each person may pray as often as he or she wants, but only 1-2 short sentences on one topic at a time. This lowers the barrier of participation for people unaccustomed to praying with others.

Wrap-Up

- Be sure to end the formal conversation on time.
- Thank newcomers for joining you, and invite everyone to the next meeting.
- Encourage people to linger for a few minutes, and do your best to have a personal interaction with each individual before he or she leaves.

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