

Luke 10:25-37
Series – The Stories of Jesus
Message – The Good Neighbor
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Fifth Reformed Church
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The Right Question

- Luke 10:25
- The expert in the law was hoping “to _____ out Jesus’ supposedly heretical views on God’s wider plans for the world” (N.T. Wright, *Luke for Everyone*, p.129).
- Phylactery – box tied to forehead with the *Shema* inside
- *Shema* – Deuteronomy 6:4-5

The Wrong Question

- Luke 10:29
- This guy wanted to know how big the _____ is and, thus, who exactly he was commanded to love as he loved himself.

The Story

- Luke 10:30-35
- Numbers 19:11-12
- Typical three-part story of Jesus’ day
- The hatred between Jews and Samaritans was _____.

The Right Posture

- Luke 10:36-37
- “Don’t ask who. Just go do.”

- “It is the duty of every Christian to be Christ to his neighbor.” – Martin Luther
- Taking the right posture toward other people begins with seeing them, primarily, as a creature made in the _____ of God regardless of any other displeasing thing we might know about them.
- “All men and women are my neighbors, which means... that I have to love everyone. In biblical terms, love is more a verb than a noun. I don’t have to like everybody, but I need to love them. To love everyone means to be loving toward them, to do what love demands for everyone you come across, whether you like him or not, whether he’s a Jew or he’s a Samaritan” (R.C. Sproul, *Luke*, p.312).
- Who’s your “them”?

How will you respond to God’s word today?

Reflection Questions

1. Do you recall a time in your life when you might have been asking the wrong question from God’s perspective? Share that with the group.
2. Describe a time when your faith in Jesus has either changed or moderated your approach to another person.
3. Share a time when you feel you missed an opportunity to be a “neighbor” to another person. What would you do differently now?
4. What types of people are the most difficult for you to love? Why do you think that is?
5. What captured your attention in this message? How might you respond to that thought or idea?
6. What might God be saying to you?
7. What are you going to do about it?