

Welcome-

Have a chat in your group and ask, 'Do you know the names of your neighbours? Are any of them your friends?' Be honest, do you like them? How would you define the term neighbour? Spend some time talking about the people around you in your world and your thoughts about them.

Word-

On Sunday we looked at the story of the Good Samaritan in the light of God's heart for us to love beyond ourselves and some of the reasons why the priest and the Levite may not have helped the wounded man and the obstacles the Samaritan would have gone through to help him.

Jesus used this story to help answer a question. He wanted the person asking the question to think about his own motives and priorities in relation to other people.

Read Luke 10 25-29

- Examine the question: What kind of world view does the question assume? What assumptions was the lawyer making in how a person receives eternal life? What is Jesus' opinion of the answer?
- The second question, who is my neighbour? What is the motive for this question and why do you think the lawyer needed to justify himself? What do you think he expected Jesus' answer to be?

Read Luke 10: 30-35

It was Martin Luther King Jr. that said that the first question the priest and the Levite asked was, "If I stop to help this man, what will happen to me?" But the Samaritan asked, "If I don't stop to help this man, what will happen to him?"

What is the difference between those questions?
Why is that difference critical to this story?

What is Jesus' point in having the Samaritan exemplify loving beyond yourself?
Which one of these men would you like to emulate?

In the past, when might you have acted like the priest or the Levite?

Read Luke 10:36-37

In this conversation between the lawyer and Jesus, who is testing whom?

What kind of person needs to hear the story that Jesus told to the lawyer?

How can we apply this story to our lives?

Who might be a Samaritan in our life?

Have you ever been helped by a good Samaritan?

Are we too busy to love outside of ourselves? Where and how can we make the adjustments God would want us to make?

Prayer-

It was Phase Trust's 20th anniversary this weekend where you heard of the work they do with marginalised children & young people. Pray for their ongoing work with those struggling with emotional and mental health challenges, those being exploited and those that find themselves needing someone to stop and love them.

Also pray for those that work with children and young people in any capacity and take some time if there are any in your group: NHS workers, social care, education, foster carers, therapists etc.

Pray for your neighbours and that you respond well to any opportunities to help them.