

## GUIDE FOR GROUP DISCUSSION: week of August 18<sup>th</sup>

This study is designed to help your community group grow as disciples of Jesus Christ. There are three dimensions to following Jesus.

UP: growing in relationship with God

IN: growing in relationship with other followers of Jesus

OUT: growing in relationship with the world around us as we join God in God's mission

### **Getting Started:**

1) If your group is meeting for the first time or has new members, take time to introduce yourselves around the circle. What is your name, etc. What are you hoping to get out of these next 10 weeks?

2) If your group is continuing from the Spring with no new members, still take time to discuss what you are hoping to get out of the next 10 weeks together. What are you looking forward to as a group this fall?

### **UP: Connect with God through Spending Time in His Word**

Read aloud the passage for the week: Luke 10:25-37. Allow a few moments to silently reflect on what you heard. Underline or note any words or phrases that seem meaningful.

1) Reread verse 29. What about this man's question sounds familiar? What about this question mirrors our own society's attitude toward love of God and love of our neighbors?

2) Reread verse 30. This man didn't do anything wrong. He was simply in the wrong place at the wrong time. When have you seen people unjustly stripped of their dignity or harmed in a similar way?

3) What systems/institutions exist in our world which regularly inflict this sort of harm on others? (Racism? Sexism? etc.)

4) Reread verses 31-33. Jesus's audience would likely have had a strong dislike or distrust of the Samaritan people. What do you think about Jesus's decision to establish an "enemy" of the audience as the hero of the story?

5) Reread verses 34-35. How do the Samaritan man's actions serve to help the victimized man return to human flourishing?

6) Who in your life needs to be restored to the type of flourishing life which Jesus offers?

7) How does this passage challenge you to think differently about what it means to be human?

### **IN: Connect with Each Other**

Take time to share prayer requests as a group. Assign one person to pray for all of these requests to close your group time.

### **OUT: Connect with the World Around Us (Join God in His Mission)**

City Serve is coming up October 5<sup>th</sup>. This event provides a fantastic opportunity to join in the humanizing work of Jesus in our city. Take time as a group to discuss whether some of you (or all of you!) will register for a service site together. More information can be found at: [firstprescos.org/cityserve](http://firstprescos.org/cityserve).