



REPLENISHED – Serving Matters 14th February 2021 Mark Wiltshire

This Study Guide provides a summarised study with additional discussion questions based on the scriptures mentioned in the sermon.

Connect:

1. Read [Luke 10:25-29](#)
2. Legalism can be expressed in many ways in life:
 - It demands specific behaviours
 - It can make people superior, and operate without love
3. What examples can you think of where legalism can damage good and healthy relationships?
4. Why did Jesus use a parable here?

Engage:

5. Why does serving matter?

“The highest form of worship is the worship of unselfish Christian service. The greatest form of praise is the sound of consecrated feet seeking out the lost and helpless.”

Billy Graham

6. What are your opportunities to serve?
7. Read [Luke 10:30](#)
 - This parable is only found in the Gospel of Luke (Note: Parables are never intended as doctrinal statements, but uncomplicated illustrations using symbolism with a central message.)
 - Life creates serving opportunities – ordinary things are important
 - We don't need to go searching – we will literally walk into them
 - In life there are many victims (abuse, injustice, vulnerability)
 - Jesus told this story to illustrate how far we all fall short of what God's law actually demands, not just showing kindness to strangers.

“Jesus is telling this parable to a pedantic religious legalist who was trying to diminish the force of God's law with a hair-splitting analysis of the word neighbour.”

John MacArthur

8. It was a dangerous road the route from Jerusalem to Jericho:

- A real route - 4000ft drop in elevation
- Dangerous - 17 miles of winding road, crossing barren mountains over very rough terrain. In places, a steep, three-hundred-foot precipice.
- Rarely used by the Samaritans
- Jews going to Galilee took the road from Jerusalem to Jericho because they wanted to avoid Samaria.
- Few homes and few places to stop

Framework:

9. Read [Luke 10:31-32](#)
10. What did the Priest and the Levite see?
11. Read [Numbers 19:11](#)
12. Serving is always a heart response (choice) – How healthy is your soil (Parable of the soil – as mentioned last week)?
13. What stops you from stepping in to help others in need?

“The first question which the priest and the Levite asked was: “If I stop to help this man, what will happen to me?”

But the good Samaritan reversed the question: “If I do not stop to help this man, what will happen to him?””

Martin Luther King Jr

14. Read [Luke 10:33-35](#)
15. Do you have a heart to respond?
16. Discuss for a moment how the Samaritan was ‘different’?
 - One reason is because he owned the problem and found a solution.
17. Why do people look to blame others for their issues?
 - Jesus is showing in this parable that righteous compassion is not narrow. It is not seeking for definitions of what sufferers are qualified to deserve help.
18. Read [Luke 10:36-37](#)
19. Why is mercy significant?
20. **The Power of Mercy:**
 - **Mercy draws Mercy:** **Matt 5:7** God blesses those who are merciful, for they will be shown mercy.
 - **Mercy reveals God:** **Rom 9:16** So it is God who decides to show mercy. We can neither choose it nor work for it.
 - **Mercy strengthens Us:** **Col 3:12** Since God chose you to be the holy people he loves, you must clothe yourselves with tender-hearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.

- **Mercy draws Others: Matt 9:13** Then he added, “Now go and learn the meaning of this Scripture: ‘I want you to show **mercy**, not offer sacrifices.’ For I have come to call not those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are sinners.”
 - **Mercy is Expected by God: Micah 6:8** ...the Lord has told you what is good, and this is what he requires of you: to do what is right, to love **mercy**, and to walk humbly with your God.
 - Read [James 2:13](#)
21. We asked you earlier, ‘why does serving matter?’ Serving matters because it unforgettably impacts others and reveals God’s nature through us.