

# LIKE A GOOD NEIGHBOR

## Small Group Questions

### Part 4: The Art of Neighboring

© 2015 Seacoast Church. All Rights Reserved.

## Read

Luke 10:25-29 and 38-42; and Acts 17:26-27

## Reflect

In Luke 10:25-29, Jesus was asked some questions about neighbors. What does God expect from us when it comes to our neighbors? Who counts as my neighbor anyway? The people asking Jesus these questions were actually trying to figure out who they could get away with *\*not\** serving; they want to know who they could safely ignore. But Jesus reminds us that loving people and loving God are tied together; we cannot separate the two.

Guest speaker Dave Runyon gave us some great thoughts about the art of neighboring:

1. If we try to love everybody, we'll often end up loving nobody.
  - a. Have you ever known someone who tried to make everybody happy? Have you ever *\*been\** that person?
  - b. The parable of the Good Samaritan can feel overwhelming: "how can I help everybody I see in need?" But what could happen if we started small: what do you think could happen if each person just looked out for their neighbors?
  - c. What keeps us from helping those around us?
2. Martha teaches us that we have to learn to say no to good things in order to center our lives around the main thing.
  - a. Have you ever worked on a project at home or work and, halfway through, realized that you weren't entirely sure why you were doing it at all?
  - b. If God isn't at the center of our lives, something else will be. What sort of things do we tend to center ourselves around instead of God?
  - c. What happens when something else is in the center of our lives? How can we put God back in the center?
3. Paul reminds us that God has placed us exactly where and when we should live.
  - a. If we try to love everybody, we'll end up loving nobody. But we can focus on the people right where God has placed us. Have you ever considered that God placed you among them for a reason?
  - b. Reflect for a moment: *\*why\** might God have placed *\*you\** in your neighborhood? Are there ways that only you can help or serve your neighbors?
  - c. Is there anyone in your neighborhood you can help today or this week?

## Respond

What is your next step? Where is God leading you? How can your small group support you and hold you accountable in this?