

# SUMMER STORIES

## The Parables of Jesus



## Summer Stories: The Parables of Jesus | The Good Samaritan

Jesus wanted people to experience God in their everyday world and He accomplished this by teaching in parables. A parable is theology through story. It's a spiritual truth about God and His kingdom expressed through the lens of normal, everyday things like parties, pearls, and planting seeds. The Kingdom of God isn't confined to a church building, it's active where we live, work, and play. It is who we are as Jesus' people.

Jesus' parable of the Good Samaritan in Luke 10:25-37 is one of his most widely known, so much so it changed the understanding of the word *Samaritan*. This parable was His response to a question, on the surface, about who is a neighbor. But the real question He answers is how far love goes.

### Discussion Questions:

1. Retell the parable of the Good Samaritan in your own words, then read Luke 10:25-37.
2. How does this parable encourage or inspire you?
3. Who have you identified with in this parable when you heard or read it before (traveler, Priest, Levite, Samaritan)? How so?
4. Which character in the parable did you identify with during the sermon (traveler, Priest, Levite, Samaritan)? How so?
5. Read 1 Corinthians 5:14-16. We all tend to have some group or type of people you struggle to understand or perhaps find ourselves somewhat condescending or giving lower respect or value, even if not to the level the Jewish and Samaritan communities did in the New Testament. Who is most like Samaritans in your mind sometimes, people? How does this passage challenge you to engage with and think about them differently?
6. Read Philippians 2:3-4. Share one way you can commit to elevating someone else's value by serving, caring, engaging, or coming alongside them.