

# What Does It Mean To Love Your Neighbor As Yourself?

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## Key Truth:

To love your neighbor is to give yourself for another by drawing from God's mercy and love. The aim of this love is eternal life.

One of the most quoted commands from the Bible, used by Christians and Non-Christians alike is the command to **“Love your neighbor as yourself.”** People use this command in so many ways. You see it on billboards along the highway, on church signs, in social media, and you even hear it from the lips of Politicians. But what does it actually mean? What does it mean to love your neighbor as yourself?

## DISCUSS

Read **Luke 10:25-37** and discuss with the group a statement or concept that stood out to you or impacted you in the sermon on **“What Does It Mean To Love Your Neighbor As Yourself?”**

## DIG IN

### 1. The Command to Love: *“You shall love...”* (Luke 10:25-29)

Summarize the “test” that the Lawyer (“expert in the law”) gives to Jesus:

What does anyone “do” to inherit anything? Why?

In what ways was the Lawyer trying to “test” Jesus?

### 2. The Example of Love: *“... your neighbor ...”* (Luke 10:30-35)

**Read Luke 10:30-35:** Compare and Contrast the actions of the Priest and Levite with those of the Samaritan.

In what ways did the Samaritan show Love for the wounded man?

In what ways do we *normally* apply this without first addressing verses 36 & 37?

### 3. The Application of Love: *“... as yourself.”* (Luke 10:36-37)

Why is it important that we not separate the command to “Love God” from the command to “Love your neighbor?” In what ways would this devolve into “moralism” (the practice of doing good deeds to gain God’s favor) if we try to practice the Second Commandment without the First?

Read Jesus’ question to the Lawyer (v. 36) and the Lawyer’s response (v. 37b). Who is the “neighbor” whom the Lawyer should love? In what ways does this answer speak of the Gospel of God’s grace to us in Jesus Christ?

Why is it necessary to experience God’s love to us before we can show God’s love to others?

## DO

Share with the group now one way in which you have experienced the Love of God. Then, share a way you can take that to those in need?