



## Key References:

### Luke 10:25–37 (NLT)

<sup>25</sup> One day an expert in religious law stood up to test Jesus by asking him this question: “Teacher, what should I do to inherit eternal life?”

<sup>26</sup> Jesus replied, “**What does the law of Moses say? How do you read it?**”

<sup>27</sup> The man answered, “ ‘You must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your strength, and all your mind.’ And, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ ” <sup>28</sup> **“Right!”** Jesus told him. **“Do this and you will live!”** <sup>29</sup> The man wanted to justify his actions, so he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”

<sup>30</sup> Jesus replied with a story: **“A Jewish man was traveling from Jerusalem down to Jericho, and he was attacked by bandits. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him up, and left him half dead beside the road.**

<sup>31</sup> **“By chance a priest came along. But when he saw the man lying there, he crossed to the other side of the road and passed him by. <sup>32</sup> A Temple assistant walked over and looked at him lying there, but he also passed by on the other side.**

<sup>33</sup> **“Then a despised Samaritan came along, and when he saw the man, he felt compassion for him. <sup>34</sup> Going over to him, the Samaritan soothed his wounds with olive oil and wine and bandaged them. Then he put the man on his own donkey and took him to an inn, where he took care of him. <sup>35</sup> The next day he handed the innkeeper two silver coins, telling him, ‘Take care of this man. If his bill runs higher than this, I’ll pay you the next time I’m here.’**

<sup>36</sup> **“Now which of these three would you say was a neighbor to the man who was attacked by bandits?”** Jesus asked. <sup>37</sup> The man replied, “The one who showed him mercy.” Then Jesus said, **“Yes, now go and do the same.”**

## 1 – INHERITING ETERNAL LIFE

Read Luke 10:25-29. In v26 Jesus redirects the question back to asker. **Why does Jesus do this sometimes?**

**Why does the man’s answer in v29 reveal that he was trying to justify his actions? What happens when we look at God’s commands through the lens of self-justification?**

**How difficult is it to love your neighbour as yourself?**

## 2 – WHO IS OUR NEIGHBOUR?

**Why do you think Jesus affirmed that doing these two things enables you to inherit eternal life? Isn’t there more to it?**

Read Luke 10:30-36. **What do you know about the history between the Jews and the Samaritans? Why would it have been profound that Jesus made the Samaritan the hero of this story? Why did Jesus create the story this way round?**

## 3 – LOVING OUR NEIGHBOURS

Nathan said: *“it’s easy to get completely lost in the turbulence of disagreements, polarization, and uncertainty... and actually end up abandoning Jesus’ command to love our neighbors... I can come preoccupied with proving, justifying, being right and completely lose sight of how we’re thinking, speaking and posting about people. Treating people in the midst of controversy. Jesus didn’t say love your neighbor only when we agree with your neighbor [...] or when it’s convenient”* **Is there a group of people that you find difficult to view as a true neighbour?**

Nathan said; *“to love is to have the highest eternal good for a person and to demonstrate it in love and in action”*. **How are we surrounded by people who have been robbed and battered? How can we love them in this way?**

2 Corinthians 2:15 says that we are “the aroma of Christ”. **How can we give off the aroma of peace, joy, love, goodness, self-control, hope, humility, and compassion to our neighbours in this season?**