CONNECT GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Week #5 – Who is my neighbor?

GETTING STARTED

When someone tells you to do something (exercise, clean, respond ASAP), what's your default instinct — go above and beyond, or figure out the bare minimum required? Why do you think that is?

THIS WEEK'S THEME

The message talks about "minimum requirement" Christianity. Where do you see that mindset show up in culture?

Read Luke 10:25–37

Instead of answering directly, Jesus tells a story. Why do you think Jesus focuses on what loving a neighbor looks like instead of who qualifies as a neighbor?

The Priest and the Levite were religious leaders who knew the law. What might have been going through their minds as they passed by? What kinds of "costs" still keep people from stopping today?

Jesus choosing a Samaritan as the hero would have been offensive to his original audience. Who would feel equally shocking in a modern version of this story?

List the ways the Samaritan's compassion cost him something (time, money, comfort, reputation). Which of those feels hardest for you personally?

Jesus flips the question from "Who is my neighbor?" to "Who acted like a neighbor?" How does that shift change how we understand obedience and faith?

Hans' messages suggests, "All of us are prejudiced." Why is it so difficult to admit this? What's the danger of pretending we don't have blind spots?

Who is your "Samaritan" – the person or group you're most tempted to avoid, dismiss, or define as not your responsibility? What would it look like to take one concrete step toward loving them this week?

TAKING IT HOME

MLK said the Samaritan asked, "If I do not stop to help this man, what will happen to him?" How could that question reshape the way you engage people who are different from you this week?

PRAY

Loving God, give us eyes to see people as You see them, grant us courage to cross boundaries, and help us find compassion that moves us to action. Teach us to be neighbors who reflect Your mercy, grace, and love. Amen.