Ice breaker question:
Have you ever been robbed or has your house or car been broken into? What was that like? OR Have you ever stopped to help someone hurt or in trouble? What happened?

Discuss:
1. When the expert in the law asks, “Who is my neighbor?” Jesus answers with a parable. How would you answer that question today: Who is my neighbor?
2. When speaking of inheriting eternal life, the expert in the law gives the answer in terms of actions – love God and love others. Jesus tells a story of action – of a Samaritan showing mercy – and then Jesus says, “Go and do likewise.” Why do you think this parable focuses more on actions than words?
3. Often when reading this familiar parable, we put ourselves in the place of the Good Samaritan, the hero of the story. What would it be like to be the person hurt on the side of the road? How does this perspective change your understanding of the story?
4. How have the times when you have been vulnerable or in pain helped you to love others in ways you would not otherwise have been able to do?
5. In the story, a Priest and a Levite (good guys) don’t help the man beaten by robbers. The Samaritan (the bad guy) helps the man in trouble. What is Jesus teaching through using these characters?
6. The Priest and the Levite may have had reason not to stop and help. If they stopped, they would be defiled by touching the injured man, and would risk being robbed themselves on this road. In what ways have we been reticent to care for someone in need when we have been fearful for our spiritual health or our physical well-being?
7. Who would win the Good Samaritan award in your life or in our church and why? Where in our church or community can we show mercy?

Prayer:
Question 4 talks about times you have been vulnerable. As you close in prayer, tell your Home Group how they can be praying for you specifically. Asking for prayer for ourselves helps us show our vulnerability to one another and helps build community. Additionally, keep the following prayer requests from our church family in mind as you close.

> Prayers of comfort for the Baker family in the death of Erika's grandmother.
> Prayers of healing for Johnny Lawrence, step mother of Margi Peake; Mark, son of Shannon Robinson, assistant director of Noah's Ark, and Hadley Lehr, daughter of Heather and Jim.