



## Weekly Bible Study Schedule

**Tuesday, January 26, 7:00-7:50 AM**

**FIRST FLOOR ROTUNDA**

**Capitol Commission is  
NON-PARTISAN and NON-  
DENOMINATIONAL**

The Gospel of Luke, chapters 10-24 is a narrative of Jesus' journey to Jerusalem with 12 every-day people. In addition to the 12 was a group of supporters, seekers, and skeptics.

**The first big idea of discipleship is love.** And why not, God is love. *"Let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is a child of God and knows God. But anyone who does not love does not know God, for God is love. But if we love each other, God lives in us, and his love is brought to full expression in us. God is love, and all who live in love live in God, and God lives in them". 1 John 4:7-8, 16*

**Luke 10:25-37** presents one of the most significant narratives in the Scripture called the "Good Samaritan". The Samaritans were outsiders.

**25: "One day an expert in religious law stood up to test Jesus by asking him this question:**

Think of the expert as a lawyer and professor. He knows the law and instructed in the law. The expert asked a question, to which, he knew the answer. When a professor gives a student an exam question she already knows the answer.

To the expert, the answer was found in the first 5 books of the Old Testament, also called the Torah. The growing crowd were familiar with the Mosaic Law. One would feel the tension in the air. Here comes the test question: **"Teacher, what should I do to inherit eternal life?"** In

other words, "When I come to the end of my life and I give account to God, how can I be sure I will be saved?"

The answer would reveal if Jesus was seeking a rebellion against the Roman government structure and the religious system; would He answer from a source other than Moses?

**26-28: "Jesus replied, "What does the law of Moses say? How do you read it?" "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.'" "Right!" Jesus told him. "Do this and you will live!"**

Luke wants his readers to know Jesus came to fulfill the law as the new Moses that through His death would lead His people on an exodus out of spiritual slavery into spiritual freedom.

*"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all you might". Deut. 6:4-5 (Shema – first prayer a child learns. It is considered the central focus of morning and evening prayers. It affirms there is one God).*

Jesus answered from the Torah; He spoke as one who knew the Scripture and not as a man seeking a rebellion against the Roman government structure and the religious system. That was the test.

*"You have heard the law that says, 'Love your neighbor' and hate your enemy. But I say, love your enemies! Pray for those who persecute you! In that way, you will be acting as true children of your Father in heaven. For he gives his sunlight to both the evil and the good, and he sends rain on the just and the unjust alike. If you love only those who love you, what reward is there for that? Even corrupt tax collectors do that much. If you are kind only to your friends, how are you different from anyone else?" Matt. 5:43-47*

Jesus is not quoting the Bible when He says hate your enemies, rather, He's pointing out the world's values: love those most like you, love those that think like you, love those that believe the way you do, love those that sit on the same side of the aisle as you do. No, the Kingdom of God culture: loves enemies, loves those different from you, loves those that disagree with you, loves those who see the world with a different colored-lens, it's the upside-down way.

The great reversal from the world's social-values shed light on how the Kingdom of God is radically different from that of the worldly. "Rethink Everything".

### Historical Backdrop for Israel and Samaria.

*Approximately 740 BC the Assyrians attacked the northern kingdom of Israel and exiled them into Babylon (present region of Iraq). Approximately 722 BC, the capital city, Samaria, was conquered and the people subjugated into the land of the Medes (present region of Iran). In 701 BC the Assyrians attacked Judah, the southern part of Israel, but they failed. This all happened because of Israel's many years of consistent rebellion against God's covenants. They forsook God to worship idols and follow the ways of nations around them. During the 70 years of captivity the Assyrians populated the cities of Samaria and dwelled with the resident Israelites. The next generation of Assyrians lived among the Samaritan people. The Assyrian foreigners and the remnant of Israelites integrated as one population, and rejected their worship of God and were considered compromised Jews by the southern tribes of Israel.*

**29-34: "The man wanted to justify his actions, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" "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." "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. A Temple assistant (Levite Priest) walked over and looked at him lying there, but he also passed by on the other side."**

Priest and Levite shared the same way of life in the same community of faith.

- Religious leader
- Unexpected encounter with the violated
- Reaction was avoidance
- Redirection, crossed the street and away from the needy
- Action, rejected one's fellow Jew

**"Then a despised Samaritan came along, and when he saw the man, he felt compassion for him. 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. 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.'"**

Samaritans were biracial, despised by the southern Israelites.

- Compromised Jew
- Unexpected encounter with the violated
- Reaction was compassion/mercy
- Redirection, changed his travel plans and went to the needy
- Action, cared for the foreigner (Jew) that despised him (Samaritan)

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

To the lawyer/professor, Jesus said, you be the neighbor. Love the despised, welcome the marginalized and journey together.

What if you are the neighbor? What might this session look like if we loved one another and lived in unity?

*"And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God". Micah 6:8*

