



Modern Jesus | The Good Samaritan | Ronnie Johnson
Weekly Study | 11.17.19

START

To get things started, go around the circle and answer the following question:

What is one thing that brought you life this week? (it could be something small but meaningful, or big and impactful)

SHARE

This week Ronnie closed out the series *Modern Jesus*. Jesus was a Jewish Rabbi who lived on the other side of the world in the first century. So why should we continue to follow Him today? Is Jesus still relevant? Who is he, and why should he matter to our lives?

What was one thing that God revealed to you this week after listening to Ronnie's message?

From this series, what is one thing you have taken with you? How has this changed the way you live your everyday life?

GROW

Read Luke 10:25-29

Ronnie brought in several different aspects of the story of the "Good Samaritan." This story

reminds us that our lives are not intended to be lived alone, and that we are all in real need of Jesus to walk in His ways.

Whether this was the first time you heard this story or the tenth time, what was one thing that God revealed to you through the Good Samaritan?

Take a look at the lawyer in verse 26, he came to Jesus and tried to trip him up by questioning how to inherit eternal life. Jesus' response then was an invitation to dialogue. When Jesus asks this question, this was important because he is asking a man who is an expert in the Mosaic Law. The man answered correctly, based on Law but he was missing it. The Law is perfect but we are not. The man then tries to justify himself with his knowledge and expertise yet there is so much more. We cannot receive salvation on our own. We cannot love God, on our own. We cannot love others, on our own. We need something so much greater than ourselves, and this is exactly what Jesus is communicating to this man.

What does it look like for you on a daily basis to do all the “right” things but miss the heart of God?

In your opinion, when missing God's heart, can we love Him and others well?

How many times have we found ourselves trying to live this life on our own? Trying to love God and love others well and yet we find ourselves exhausted and spent because we have forgotten that we must be connected to God who gives us the power to do so.

M O V E

Read Luke 10:30-37

After reading this again, what emotions does this story conjure up inside of you?

There are a few perspectives in the story here. There is the perspective of the one stripped, beaten and left alone to die. The “good Samaritan” has the perspective of compassion as he re-routes his entire day and his plan to care for this person in need. And then there are the “walker byers” with the perspective of, “ain’t nobody got time for this” or perhaps “this situation is too messy for me to be part of it.” For many of us this last perspective may evoke

disgust and dishearten us for humanity, but if we're honest, we have all been in or have seen through one of these perspectives in our lifetime.

Think of a time that you have experienced one or more of these perspectives. Maybe you have been the one left, or the one who stopped to help, or even the one who kept walking. Share with your group.

Just as the people who walked by desperately need Jesus, we need to realize that we need him just as badly. We cannot truly know God and love people without grasping “how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.” (Ephesians 3:18-19).

What would change in our daily lives if we truly knew our desperation for Jesus? How would our perspectives change? How would we love differently?

Let us pray this week that God gives us the awareness of our need for Him as we come and go throughout our week.

Think of someone in your life who may need to know the deep love of Jesus. What will it look like to give your life generously to them this week?

P R A Y

As a group, spend some time praying for each other. If you are in a co-ed group, it can be helpful to break up into two groups in order to share more easily about your prayer request.

T O G O

And he answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself.” - Luke 10:27