

EMMAUSWii

week two • january 12

INTRO

This winter we will be looking at life's relationships... particularly our relationships with each other right here in the middle school group... we will be talking about what community is and how it is a gift from God and how to unwrap this gift and make it part of our lives.

GETTING STARTED

Second week of WII!! We are going to look at what it means to be a "neighbor" to each other...

•SCRIPTURE

Luke 10

²⁵ *On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"*

²⁶ *"What is written in the Law?" he replied. "How do you read it?"*

²⁷ *He answered, "'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, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"*

²⁸ *"You have answered correctly," Jesus replied. "Do this and you will live."*

²⁹ *But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"*

³⁰ *In reply Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. ³¹ A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. ³² So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³ But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. ³⁴ He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. ³⁵ The next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.'*

³⁶ *"Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?"*

³⁷ *The expert in the law replied, "The one who had mercy on him." Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise."*

•DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Read again the story of the good samaritan from Luke 10.
2. Jesus says that we are supposed to love our neighbor, based on this story...who is our neighbor? Is it just the person who lives next door or is it broader than that?

3. Also from this parable, what is a central way that we are supposed to show love to the people that are around us? (serve them!)
4. What are some essential elements of service from this story? (unselfishness, sacrifice, no expectation of the service being returned, given freely without hesitation)
5. Is it possible to be thinking of yourself and serving others? Why?
6. What role do you think service plays in a community? Can community exist where people do not serve each other? Why?
7. How do you think service enhances a community? How do you think a lack of serving each other can damage a community?
8. What are some ways that we can serve each other in this group?
9. How do you think new people who react to our community if they saw us serving and loving each other?