

# DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

## “God’s heart for the nations”

Luke 10:25-37

“Trending”

Main Idea: We may differ on policy, but we must unite with a heart of compassion.

---

### Discovery Questions

#### 1. Think of a time in your life when you were showed compassion that you didn’t deserve.

*This is a “lighter” questions designed to get the conversation going. Spend about 5-7 minutes on this question.*

*Spend 5 minutes on this question*

As we begin a new series, we are delving into the very touchy and pertinent issues relating to our world today. Our first topic is that of God’s heart for the nations. The deeper question that this raises, especially in today’s political climate, is “what do we do with refugees and immigrants?” We believe that God has plenty to say on this topic, and so we turn to a critical passage that demonstrates God’s heart of compassion and our response to the foreigner, stranger, and even our own neighbors.

#### 2. Read Luke 10:25-37. From this passage, answer the following questions:

- a. What do we learn about the definition of “neighbor”?
- b. What do we learn about God’s heart for people through this passage?

*The definition of “neighbor” seems to extend beyond those who are immediately around us. The Pharisees asked Jesus this specific question so that they could know exactly what was expected of them and what was not. This showed their hearts to only do enough to appease the expectations that they believe God had of them. But Jesus blew up this notion, showing us God’s true heart: universal compassion. And so “neighbor” is anyone who is need around you, that you can help with what you have at your disposal or means.*

*For part b) we learn that God’s heart is for us as His followers to show compassion for others. He also loves all, and sees no distinction between races, ethnicities or countries.*

*Spend 10-12 minutes on this question.*

#### 3a. What are some of the views that are held today when it comes to our nation’s relationship with immigrants and refugees?

#### b. Are policy and compassion mutually exclusive?

#### c. How have you seen someone who has been a great example of how to live out compassion in these dividing times? What are they doing that is making them so effective?

# DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

It may be good at the start of this question to lay out that the ultimate goal of this discussion is to lead us towards compassion and unity.

*These following questions could go down very deep and very divisive rabbit trails. Be careful, as the facilitator, to lead the conversation back to what we see in the world around us, not what we personally believe.*

*This conversation will have many different viewpoints and opinions, so make sure to allow space for those views to be expressed. Part C) will be a good anchoring question, to get people thinking about how to find the balance when searching to be compassionate.*

*Spend 15 minutes on this question.*

**4. It is clear from the passage about the Good Samaritan that we are called to care about those who have been treated unfairly.**

**a. What is one way that you could see yourself growing in compassion towards those outside of your comfort zone?**

**b. Who has God put in your life who may stretch the definition of “neighbor”, at least according to our personal definition?**

**c. What might you do this week to reach out, to grow in compassion, and expand your heart towards others?**

*For each of these questions, there will be plenty of room to explore ways to get involved in caring for people. This may include getting involved in setting policy or making laws, but ultimately we want to show that our actions should be compassionate towards all, especially those who are in our proximity.*

*Spend 15 minutes on this question.*

**5. Because of the multiple layers that are a part of this conversation, spend time praying together as a group. Pray for unity, for your compassion to grow, and for those in need (both here and around the world).**

*This topic is very tough, and can cause tension even amongst believers. We know that God calls us to compassion, but He does not necessarily call us to recklessness or abandoning personal or corporate responsibilities. Spend a good amount of time praying for unity, compassion and care for all of our “neighbors” on this earth.*

*Spend 10 minutes on this question*

*Leader Guide on Next Page*

# DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

## Leader Guide

---

### 1. Think of a time in your life when you were showed compassion that you didn't deserve.

*This is a "lighter" questions designed to get the conversation going. Spend about 5-7 minutes on this question.*

*Spend 5 minutes on this question*

As we begin a new series, we are delving into the very touchy and pertinent issues relating to our world today. Our first topic is that of God's heart for the nations. The deeper question that this raises, especially in today's political climate, is "what do we do with refugees and immigrants?" We believe that God has plenty to say on this topic, and so we turn to a critical passage that demonstrates God's heart of compassion and our response to the foreigner, stranger, and even our own neighbors.

### 2. Read Luke 10:25-37. From this passage, answer the following questions:

- a. What do we learn about the definition of "neighbor"?
- b. What do we learn about God's heart for people through this passage?

*The definition of "neighbor" seems to extend beyond those who are immediately around us. The Pharisees asked Jesus this specific question so that they could know exactly what was expected of them and what was not. This showed their hearts to only do enough to appease the expectations that they believe God had of them. But Jesus blew up this notion, showing us God's true heart: universal compassion. And so "neighbor" is anyone who is need around you, that you can help with what you have at your disposal or means.*

*For part b) we learn that God's heart is for us as His followers to show compassion for others. He also loves all, and sees no distinction between races, ethnicities or countries.*

*Spend 10-12 minutes on this question.*

### 3a. What are some of the views that are held today when it comes to our nation's relationship with immigrants and refugees?

- b. Are policy and compassion mutually exclusive?
- c. How have you seen someone who has been a great example of how to live out compassion in these dividing times? What are they doing that is making them so effective?

It may be good at the start of this question to lay out that the ultimate goal of this discussion is to lead us towards compassion and unity.

*These following questions could go down very deep and very divisive rabbit trails. Be careful, as the facilitator, to lead the conversation back to what we see in the world around us, not what we personally believe.*

# DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

*This conversation will have many different viewpoints and opinions, so make sure to allow space for those views to be expressed. Part C) will be a good anchoring question, to get people thinking about how to find the balance when searching to be compassionate.*

*Spend 15 minutes on this question.*

**4. It is clear from the passage about the Good Samaritan that we are called to care about those who have been treated unfairly.**

**a. What is one way that you could see yourself growing in compassion towards those outside of your comfort zone?**

**b. Who has God put in your life who may stretch the definition of “neighbor”, at least according to our personal definition?**

**c. What might you do this week to reach out, to grow in compassion, and expand your heart towards others?**

*For each of these questions, there will be plenty of room to explore ways to get involved in caring for people. This may include getting involved in setting policy or making laws, but ultimately we want to show that our actions should be compassionate towards all, especially those who are in our proximity.*

*Spend 15 minutes on this question.*

**5. Because of the multiple layers that are a part of this conversation, spend time praying together as a group. Pray for unity, for your compassion to grow, and for those in need (both here and around the world).**

*This topic is very tough, and can cause tension even amongst believers. We know that God calls us to compassion, but He does not necessarily call us to recklessness or abandoning personal or corporate responsibilities. Spend a good amount of time praying for unity, compassion and care for all of our “neighbors” on this earth.*

*Spend 10 minutes on this question*