



DIDN'T SEE THAT COMING

finding clarity in the chaos

STUDY GUIDE

THE POINT: God has shown us extravagant, undeserved mercy; therefore, we must “Go, and do likewise.”

This week we begin a new series where we explore the opportunities of COVID-19. Yes, you heard right, the opportunities. COVID-19 came and changed our lives, but it has also pushed us to ask a particular question—what really matters to us? Before the pandemic, we were busy doing those things that were seemingly important to us, but are not nearly as important any longer.

This week we look at what it means to love people in the middle of chaos. The chaos we are experiencing in our world with the pandemic, police brutality, riots, and looting forces us to confront the question ‘who is my neighbor’. Jesus both taught what it meant to be a good neighbor in the story of the Good Samaritan and exemplified what it meant to a variety of unlikely neighbors, including those with disease, in authority, of different ethnicities, and who oppressed the Jews. He showed each of them undeserved, extravagant compassion and mercy. Because of the extravagant, undeserved mercy that God has shown us, we must go and do likewise, serving the one in front of you, serving together, and serving FOR the future.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Read and discuss **Luke 10:25-37**. Jesus uses the questions of the Levite as a teaching moment to describe our neighbor. Can you identify yourself in the characters in the story? How do you identify with the mercy and compassion the victim in the story receives?
2. What's one idea from the message that really stood out to you? Why did this idea grab your attention?
3. Reality check: Jesus interacted with many unlikely neighbors including the sick, religious authorities, other ethnicities, and the Roman oppressors. Who have you come in contact with during this time of chaos and strife who is an unlikely neighbor? What was your reaction? Did you receive or show compassion or mercy?
4. God has shown us extravagant, undeserved mercy. How can we show this same mercy to our neighbor?
5. Jesus teaches us three lessons in His neighbor stories: serve the one in front of you, serve together, and serve FOR the future. Give examples of how we love people in this way?

ACTION STEPS

- God did not expect you to experience life, or a pandemic, alone. Since we are not yet ready to meet in large gatherings, we encourage you to gather in two ways:
 - **HOUSE CHURCH**- approximately ten people who gather in a home to watch and discuss the worship service, socialize, invite new people, and make plans to serve in our community.
 - **HUDDLE**- four people of the same gender who commit to meeting together weekly for a year to discover and deepen their relationship with Jesus and each other.
- What's one thing you will do this week as a result of something you learned from this message?
- Read the **Didn't See That Coming Daily Devotional** on our website.