



Exceeding Expectations

During this week's sermon, Pastor John Ho discussed the many ways in which the Samaritan man exceeded expectations in responding to the wounded Jewish man. What are the ways in which you engage with your neighbors? Are there ways God wants you to engage, and are there ways God wants you to grow?

LOOKING BACK:

FAMILY TIME (25 min)

- Vision Statement: Explain the vision of lifegroup.
- Last week we asked God to show us the ways He wanted us to grow in being loving. Take some time to share and "loving" experiences you've had this week.
- Share Prayer Requests and/or Check-in on previous week

LOOKING UP:

WORSHIP (20 min)

- Spend time in worship together.
- Some possible song suggestions:
 - Sunday's worship set: [Find it here!](#)
 - Never Lost (7mins)
 - The Everlasting (7mins)
 - Praise Before My Breakthrough (7mins)

BIBLE STUDY (20 min)

- Intro Question: Have you experienced a time when someone went above and beyond or out of their way to bless you?

Matthew 5:38-42

³⁸“You have heard the law that says the punishment must match the injury: ‘An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth.’^[a] ³⁹But I say, do not resist an evil person! If someone slaps you on the right cheek, offer the other cheek also. ⁴⁰If you are sued in court and your shirt is taken from you, give your coat, too. ⁴¹If a soldier demands that you carry his gear for a mile,^[b] carry it two miles. ⁴²Give to those who ask, and don’t turn away from those who want to borrow.

Discussion Questions:

- 1) What stands out to you from this passage?
- 2) What do you learn about God?
- 3) What do you learn about people?
- 4) Why does Jesus call us to be merciful in a way that is not equal to, but greater than the initial act or situation that we may be responding to?

LOOKING FORWARD (20-30 minutes)

Prayer Journaling exercise

Jesus calls us to exceed in our ways of mercy and generosity. Take some time to ask God:

- 1) God, remind me of a time when someone was merciful to me when I may not have deserved it.
- 2) How do you want me to grow in mercy?
- 3) Who is in need of my mercy?

Encourage Lifegroup members to continue to process with God throughout the week.

KIDS’ LESSON SUGGESTION:

Watch this video - “Man Shows Unexpected Act of Kindness”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3WR7Gt0INH4>

1. Why did the woman want to sell her ring?
2. Do you think it was easy for this woman to sell this ring?
3. What did the store owner do for this woman? What act of kindness did he do for her?
4. How do you think the woman and her kids felt when the man did this unexpected act of kindness?

5. Have you ever experienced or seen an unexpected act of kindness before? If so how did that make you feel?
6. How do you think the Jewish man felt when the Good Samaritan came and helped him?

In the story of the Good Samaritan, what the Samaritan did for the Jewish man was seen as an "unexpected" act of kindness. The Jews and Samaritans did not like each other therefore to see the Samaritan take care of this Jewish man was completely unexpected. However, the Good Samaritan knew in his heart that all human beings were God's creation and therefore was a loved and created being that was worth helping.