

# STORIES THAT DRAW US DEEPER

Discussion Questions  
June 28, 2026  
The Good Samaritan

1. What impacted you most during our worship service together this past Sunday? How would you describe what you experienced? In what ways did you experience encouragement and in what ways discomfort?
2. Jesus seems to tell stories and parables, asks questions, and takes actions to challenge prevailing narratives about God, self, and others. Describe a time when a prevailing narrative in your own life has changed and how that came about.
3. Why do you think the parable of the Good Samaritan has had such a far-reaching impact on our culture? In what ways is this familiarity positive in our society? How might it have a negative impact?
4. Read the Luke 10:25-29 and discuss the following:
  - What is your own personal reaction to this “expert in the law”? Are there any ways in which you identify with them? Are there any ways you find yourself distancing from them?
  - What is the lawyer asking for and why?
  - Why do you think Jesus responds with a question?
  - Why and how is the lawyer trying to justify (or vindicate) themselves?
5. Read the parable in Luke 10:30-35 and discuss the following:
  - Why do you think Jesus use two clergy (the Priest and the Levite) as the two passersby?
  - What might be the significance of the fact that the Priest (and probably the Levite too) are both “going down” the road?
  - Who might Jesus’ audience be expecting the third passerby to be?
  - Why do you think Jesus chooses a Samaritan for this role?
  - What might be a personal application to verse 35 here?
6. Read the story about the prophet Oded in 2 Chronicles 28:8-15. What similarities do you see here with the parable Jesus tells. Why do you think Jesus might be alluding to this story for his audience?
7. In Jesus’ final interaction with the lawyer (Luke 10:36-37), does he answer the lawyer’s original question? What is the implication of this final discussion?
8. Take some time to share one important interpretation you take from this parable and how it applies to you. Then spend some time praying for one another.

## **Prayer Practice for the week: Intentional Compassion**

Take some time this week to consciously practice compassion towards people you consider enemies. This could involve genuine and appropriate acts of kindness. It might also be inappropriate to take any action and simply hold them in your heart and mind with compassion. Either way center yourself on the common humanity you share without necessarily feeling any pressure to agree with or condone their actions.

