

# BE JUST. KIND. HUMBLE.

## WEEK 4: LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR

God of love, let me love like you. Soften my heart. Help me see a perspective that is not my own. Remind me that is not my own. Remind me that we all have a story. Remind me that we are all made in your holy image. Help me love my neighbor, Lord. and let me love like you. Amen.

## WEEK 4: OCTOBER 9, 2022

READ Matthew 22:34-40

**34 WHEN THE PHARISEES HEARD THAT JESUS HAD LEFT THE SADDUCEES SPEECHLESS, THEY MET TOGETHER. 35 ONE OF THEM, A LEGAL EXPERT, TESTED HIM. 36 "TEACHER, WHAT IS THE GREATEST COMMANDMENT IN THE LAW?"**

**37 HE REPLIED, "YOU MUST LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, WITH ALL YOUR BEING, [A] AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND. 38 THIS IS THE FIRST AND GREATEST COMMANDMENT. 39 AND THE SECOND IS LIKE IT: YOU MUST LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOU LOVE YOURSELF.[B] 40 ALL THE LAW AND THE PROPHETS DEPEND ON THESE TWO COMMANDS."**

## GETTING STARTED

- Welcome each other.
- Inquire as to anyone who is missing. Is follow-up needed?
- Reflect on some takeaways from the previous three sermons on justice, kindness, and humility, e.g., justice is being in right relationships, kindness is making room for others, humility is citing the "Source."
- How might they prepare us for today's focus on love for neighbor?

## SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Do you have a "neighbor" you don't agree with or you don't like? Describe your relationship.
- How do you react to the two-point challenge to love God and to love one's neighbor? Is one easier than the other? How do they relate to each other? Can we do just one?
- Consider taking a risk and sharing a tender issue in your life that illustrates Pastor Mindie's point about how difficult these situations are?
- Name two or three issues about which you believe your viewpoint is right. What is/are the source(s) of your belief? What would it take for you to suspend your belief? Is it possible for you to suspend it without changing it? How do you react to the admonition that we are required to let go of the need to be right?
- In your daily life, how might you apply the idea that each and every person is a reflection of God whom we are to love?
- What interferes with our best efforts to see the image of God in others, especially those we find hard to love?
- How does Jesus redefine "neighbor" for the Pharisees?
- What do we need to love our "enemies" as Jesus expects of us? Consider how this might be a prayer request.
- How do you react to Pastor Mindie's illustration of the Pastor and the gunshot owner? Could you see yourself doing something like they did?
- How is it that we sometimes become the very thing we criticize in others?
- What are your most important takeaways from this sermon?
- What one or two behaviors would you pledge to change in response to this teaching of Jesus? What would you need to accomplish this change?
- This Scripture passage includes "The Greatest Commandment." What makes it so?

## PRAYER REQUESTS

