

WEEK 1

HERE TO SERVE: Transformative Community Priority*

Will You Be A Neighbor?

Watch

Week 1 Video | Jesus in All of Luke, Video 8: Luke 10

Session Video (4 minutes)

Read

Read these verses out loud:

- Luke 10:25–37
- Leviticus 19:18
- Galatians 5:13-14

Discuss

HEAD (10–15 minutes)

1. How would you phrase these passages in your own words? What stands out to you?

- 2. What barriers do we face in our own lives as we seek to serve as the Samaritan did in Luke 10? What could you imagine Jesus saying to you about those barriers?
- 3. How does the consistency of Scriptural text (Leviticus, Luke, Galatians) encourage you to serve others as Jesus did?

HEART (15–20 minutes)

- 1. How do you feel about growing in how you serve your family, neighbors, community, city, the world? Does that feel intimidating? Exciting? Humbling?
- 2. Where are you naturally drawn to serve?
- 3. Where might God be asking you to serve that feels less comfortable? What are examples of areas where God calls you to serve—even when you do not feel a particular interest, giftedness, or passion?

HANDS (10 minutes)

Brainstorm ways that you can begin to serve better today. Here are some possibilities:

- 1. Your family: Offer to do a task no one likes to do, such as take out the trash.
- 2. **Your community:** Ask a neighbor or a friend who is curious about your faith to join you for Alpha starting September 29 at 7 PM with dinner for 8 weeks. Alpha is a listening community designed to help participants explore questions about faith in a non-judging space. Everyone is welcome in this safe discussion space. For more information contact Assistant Pastor of Outreach, Emmanuel Paulpeter at epaulpeter@fpchouston.org.
 - Pray for our church to invite their non-Christian or Christian-but-searching friends to Alpha.
 - Pray for skeptics and seekers who come to the movie group, Ted Talk group, and Taco group to be willing to try Alpha.
 - Pray for this Alpha to be a space where we will have at least ten beginnings of people's
 journey of faith towards the love of Jesus.

- 3. **Your church:** Sign up to teach a Sunday School class, or to greet or usher at a worship service. For more information, contact Associate Pastor of Equipping & Sending, Caitlin Rhodes-Karahadian crhodes@fpchouston.org (Sunday School) or Director of Connections, Cheryl Christie christie@fpchouston.org (greeting, ushering).
- 4. Your city: Plan to join the one-hour Local Partner Field Trip on September 22 at noon to the Nehemiah Center, which is walking distance from FPC. Other midday Local Partner Field Trips will be offered October 27 (Restoring Justice), November 17 (Open Door Mission), January 26 (Houston Welcomes Refugees). Visit this link to register for these and other local service opportunities that fit individuals, families, and groups:

 https://fpchouston.org/serve/ways-to-serve/upcoming-opportunities/.
- 5. **The world:** Attend the Outreach Lunch & Learn after church on September 18 to find out more about FPC's outreach locally and to the world.

*To learn more about the Transformative Community Priority, visit: https://fpchouston.org/about/our-vision/community-priority/

