

LIKE A GOOD Neighbor



Seeing Jesus
WEEK THREE

SERIES BIG IDEA

We will be the neighbor positioned to BLESS.

- **Begin with prayer.**
- **Listen.**
- **Eat.**
- **Serve.**
- **Story.**

We want relationships that offer a blessing in return.

Following Jesus means blessing those who cannot reciprocate in kind.

As we follow Jesus, the Holy Spirit changes us so we see people differently.

Our new life in Jesus shapes us to see the lost, the last, and the least.

TEACHING BIG IDEA:

I will invite and welcome the lost, the last, and the least because I see Jesus in them.

"For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

Luke 19:10 (NIV)

- **Jesus came to save those who can't find a way to be right with God.**
- **Jesus sees those who cannot see Him.**

But many who are first will be last, and many who are last will be first.

Matthew 19:30 (NIV)

¹⁵Don't I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?'¹⁶"So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

Matthew 20:15-16 (NIV)

Jesus sees those who are the last to be chosen and chooses them to be first.

³¹"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. ³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. ³⁴Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. ³⁵For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, ³⁶I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'

³⁷"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? ³⁸When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? ³⁹When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'

⁴⁰"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' ⁴¹Then he

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will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. ⁴²For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.'

⁴⁴"They also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?'

⁴⁵"He will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.' ⁴⁶Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."

Matthew 25:31-46 (NIV)

- **Jesus sees those who are the least; those who have been left out or pushed out.**
- **Jesus changes me so I can see, invite, welcome, and serve the lost, the last, and the least.**

Will I choose to see Jesus in the least, the lost, and the last because Jesus saw me, invited me, and welcomed me?



TEACHING SUMMARY:

Think back to a time when you were in a situation where you felt like you didn't belong? Maybe it was a new job, a new town, a new school, or a new church. What were those feelings? How did it feel when someone finally came and welcomed you?

There was a time in all our lives when we felt lost in a situation, when we felt like the last person anyone would ever want to spend time with, or when we felt like we were the least valuable in the room.

But there have also been times when we were met in those situations and were welcomed, included, and made to feel a part by someone who saw something in us that we couldn't see in ourselves.

Jesus says that all people have value in His Kingdom and we should always be on the lookout for those who feel like the last, the lost, and the least. We should welcome them in and share our Jesus life with them so that they can feel the passion and compassion of our Good Shepherd.

Will you do that this week? Will you be on the lookout for who you can engage with? Will you be the light of Jesus?

TALK IT OVER:

What did the message teach you about Jesus?

What did it teach you about you?

What did it show you about how Jesus wants you to live your life?

Are you willing to submit to His leadership in your beliefs and decisions? Why or Why not?

What is one next step you can take based on today's teaching?

How can we be praying for you?

FURTHER READING:

Day 1) John 13:15-17

Day 2) Philippians 2:1-11

Day 3) Matthew 28:18-20

Day 4) Matthew 7:12-13

Day 5) Romans 13:8-10

Day 6) Luke 6:43-45