Living a Life of Gospel-Fueled Service and Generosity

Lesson 5: Who Is My Neighbor?

Big Idea: The gospel causes us to rethink our boundaries and love people in ways that are unexpected and often costly, just like Jesus did.

Focus: Opening our hearts to the opportunity to love and serve those outside the body of Christ.

1) What was the most challenging thing to you personally from the message presented Sunday?

Read Mark 12:28-34.

- 2) Why do you think Jesus emphasized the two commands in verses 30-31 as more important than the rest?
- 3) What effect does loving God with all your "heart, soul, mind, and strength" have on daily life? What does each area listed represent? (Also see Deuteronomy 6:4-9)
- 4) How are loving God and loving our neighbor so connected? Can you really love God without loving your neighbor or vice versa? Explain your answer.

5) What did Jesus mean when He said, "You are not far from the Kingdom of God"? (V.34) How might this relate to loving your neighbor? (Also see Deuteronomy 6:4-9)

6) How does the Bible's teaching about love differ from the way love is defined by our world today? (See also 1 Corinthians 13:4-8a)

7)	According to 1 Corinthians 13:1-3, how important is love demonstrated in our lives? Why?
8)	What are the personal obstacles(idols) in your life that keep you from loving God with all your heart or loving your neighbor as yourself?
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9)	Who is someone in your life that needs to experience God's love for them through your actions? How can you demonstrate God's love to them by your words and actions this week?
10)) Based on this passage, what is the next definite step you need to take in your walk of faith with Christ to grow in your love for God and for others?