



THRIVE CHURCH

GROWTH GROUP STUDY GUIDE | SERIES: SILVER LININGS

TITLE: COMPASSION

SCRIPTURE: LUKE 10.25-37

One Thing Follow-up:

Last week we examined four truths that form a foundation of hope. (1) You are created and loved by God; (2) You are valuable to Him; (3) God knows what's happening in your life; (4) He is working to use what you, and others around you, are going through to show you more of His goodness or to share more of his grace with you.

Q. How have these truths helped you to face our current situation?

Opening

The meaning behind the saying "Every cloud has a silver lining." Is that in every difficult situation or setback contains potential for a good outcome. By searching for positives in difficult or confusing circumstances, we not only begin to experience more peace, we gain the ability to solve any parts of the problem within our control and accept the parts beyond our control.

Series Review:

Last week we began a new series that challenges us to find the silver linings during difficult situations and setbacks. This week we will be in the book of Luke, a book written in a time when Christians faced incredible opposition and persecution.

Q. Can you share a time in your life when someone showed you compassion?

Q. What opportunities have you been given to express compassion?

A Closer look at the Text

Parables were Jesus' favorite way to teach. He used them as a way to challenge understandings and move people into a deeper awareness of the benefits and obligations of the Kingdom of God. In Luke 10, Jesus shares a parable that not only challenged the lawyer his audience, but us as well.

Read Lk 10.25-29

Q. Has there ever been a time when you wanted to be obedient but only wanted to do the minimum?

The lawyer is looking for the bare *minimum requirements*. Jesus is pushing him, and us to *total obedience*.

Read Lk 10.30

Jesus sets up this parable with a “worst case scenario” in the man leaving Jerusalem and heading to Jericho.

If you feel like sharing, tell of a time when you were experiencing your own “worst case scenario”?

Lk 10.31-32

Jesus is creating a “just so happened ...” moment. God seems to create these moments so his people can express his love to a lost and hurting world.

Q. Can you describe a moment when saw God use one of the moments in your life?

God uses simple moments and acts of compassion to bring hope, heal wounds, and show his love. *Our willingness to respond in those moments will set the limits on our usefulness to the Kingdom.*

Q. Have you felt like the priest or the Levite and had a reason for not showing compassion and passed by?

Read Lk 10.33-35

Jesus goes from the people that the lawyer would EXPECT to show compassion to the last person that would be likely to show a Jew compassion, a Samaritan.

How do preconceived notions affect the way we consider expressing compassion?

Q. When have you found this to be true?

Read Lk 10.36-37

Q. What thought goes through your mind when you read v. 37? Why?

Q. Consider Jesus’ question in v. 36. From what perspective are we to see the scenario? Why?

Read Eph 2.1 and Col 2.13

Q. What do we learn from these verses?

We sometimes look to expected sources of compassion only to find that it comes from unexpected or even rejected sources.

Read Is 53.3

Q. Who is the rejected one in this verse?

Jesus is the rejected one. Jesus is the one who has compassion on our broken lives.

The Christian must remember, now more than ever, compassion given is a reflection of compassion received.

Q. How difficult will it be for you to “Go and do the same”?

The resolve to make great compassionate choices is forged by making 10,000 small compassionate choices.

What kind of small acts of obedience do feel led to follow?

As people made in God’s image, and as the church of Jesus, we are built for this. Compassion given is a reflection of compassion given.

Read Eph 2.10

Q. How has the church been prepared for this very moment?

**Living It Out
Application**

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind,” and “your neighbor as yourself.” Lk 10.27

Q. What is God saying to you in this parable?

Q. What will you do about it?

Q. How can we help you?

Prayer:

Are there any specific needs, struggles, or praises for prayer?