MARK OF A DISCIPLE
Disciples of Christ follow Christ's example of sacrificial service (Philippians 2:5–8).

SCRIPTURE
LUKE 10:25–37

BACKGROUND & CONTEXT
The lawyer mentioned in this passage was not what we typically think of when we hear the word '*lawyer*'. Instead of a courtroom attorney, he was a student of Old Testament Law—more theological expert than criminal defense, but these religious leaders enjoyed a good debate, similar to most lawyers today. His line of questioning towards Jesus leads us to believe that the lawyer wasn't really interested in finding the truth but more likely trying to bait Jesus into a debate with the hopes of finally tripping Jesus up.[1] Whether he was honestly seeking the truth or not, the truth is precisely what Jesus taught him.

*Check out the **Teacher Prep Video** for this lesson: https://vimeo.com/1179054485*

FACILITATOR NOTE: We've given you a lot of teaching material. Don't feel like you should cover everything here. You know your group better than anyone. Choose the material that will best fit your students and skip over the rest.

BELONG

PRAYER
1–2 minutes

Start your small group by asking the Lord to bless your discussion and time together.
OPTIONAL: Give students an opportunity to lead the prayer.

OPENING QUESTIONS
3–5 minutes

- How was the week? What's the best thing that's happened? Anything major going on?
- How many people do you see in a normal day? What types of people are they (extroverts, shy, etc.)?

BUILD MEANINGFUL RELATIONSHIPS

BELIEVE

EXPLORE GOD'S WORD
3–5 minutes

One reason the people of his day were amazed by Jesus' teachings is the vividness of his stories. In response to a question from the crowd, Jesus told a parable to show people the way he wanted them to care for others. Even people who are not regular Bible readers probably know what a good Samaritan is. Even though people

[1] Warren W. Wiersbe, *Wiersbe's Expository Outlines on the New Testament* (Colorado Springs, CO: Victor Books, 1992), 173.

may know what a good Samaritan is, many act like other characters in this story. These verses teach us about neighbors who care.

BREAKOUT QUESTIONS

Build Meaningful Relationships

- In your experience, what percentage of the people you know fit into each of these categories: beating others up, passing others up, and helping others up? Why did you choose your percentages?
  Answers will vary. Be prepared to share your own percentages.
- Why is it easy to "pass up" others when they're in need?
  Answers will vary but may include the following: We feel like we're too busy; we have a hard enough time dealing with our own needs; we feel like the problems others face are their own fault, etc.
- What is hard about helping others up?
  Answers will vary but may include the following: We have to put the needs of others above our own; giving to others takes away from us; sometimes we simply don't know how to help, etc.

Share Personal Stories & Ask Intentional Questions

- When have you experienced others intentionally hurting you? What was the experience like?
  Answers will vary, but may include being made fun of for something we've said or done, being picked on for being different, being made fun of for doing the right thing, etc. Come prepared with a personal experience to help start the discussion.
- When have you experienced being passed up by others? What was the experience like?
  Answers will vary but may include not making the team, not getting invited to the event that your other friends were invited to, having your car run out of gas and no one stopping to help, etc.
- When have you experienced being helped up by others? What was the experience like?
  Answers will vary but may include the following: Someone tutored you in a subject you struggled to understand; someone invited you to join them when you were sitting alone; someone chipped in when you didn't have enough money to do what your friends were doing, etc.

BECOME

Make Life Application & Hold Students Accountable

- Who is someone you've intentionally hurt or passed up? What can you do to make that relationship right?
  Unfortunately, we are all probably guilty of doing at least one of these. The first step towards making things right is to confess and ask for forgiveness. Showing someone you recognize your mistakes and saying "I'm sorry" can go a long way in the healing process.
- What are some specific steps you can take to be ready to help others up this week?
  Answers will vary, but may include asking God to open your eyes to the needs around you, carrying a little extra money with you in case someone needs financial help, being willing to invite those who are typically left out to join your group, etc.

PRAYER

Pray for students to be neighbors who care and ask God to open their eyes to those in need around them.
Use this space to keep track of any prayer requests.