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WEEK 6: RISK WHERE YOU ARE

Connect

Each week there will be a Faces and Places assignment, an opportunity to be agents of change in the world, pointing everyone we encounter to more and more life in Jesus.

- ♥ How did your “I will” statements go? How did you serve as an ambassador last week?
- ♥ What’s the biggest risk someone has ever taken for you?

Discover

“One day an expert in religious law stood up to test Jesus by asking him this question: “Teacher, what should I do to inherit eternal life?” 26 Jesus replied, “What does the law of Moses say? How do you read it?” 27 The man answered, “You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your strength, and all your mind.’ And, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.” 28 “Right!” Jesus told him. “Do this and you will live!” 29 The man wanted to justify his actions, so he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”

–Luke 10:25-29 New Living Translation

- ♥ How do you think the expert in the law expected Jesus to answer the question, “and who is my neighbor?”
- ♥ Be honest. How would you have answered the question that day?

Read aloud Jesus’ answer to the question:

“30 Jesus replied with a story: “A Jewish man was traveling from Jerusalem down to Jericho, and he was attacked by bandits. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him up, and left him half dead beside the road.

31 “By chance a priest came along. But when he saw the man lying there, he crossed to the other side of the road and passed him by. 32 A Temple assistant [walked over and looked at him lying there, but he also passed by on the other side.

33 “Then a despised Samaritan came along, and when he saw the man, he felt compassion for

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him. 34 Going over to him, the Samaritan soothed his wounds with olive oil and wine and bandaged them. Then he put the man on his own donkey and took him to an inn, where he took care of him. 35 The next day he handed the innkeeper two silver coins,[e] telling him, 'Take care of this man. If his bill runs higher than this, I'll pay you the next time I'm here.'

36 "Now which of these three would you say was a neighbor to the man who was attacked by bandits?" Jesus asked.

37 The man replied, "The one who showed him mercy."

Then Jesus said, "Yes, now go and do the same."

–Luke 10:30-37 New Living Translation

◆ **What do you learn about who your neighbor is in this story?**

◆ **When are you most likely to avoid risking to love your neighbor in this way?**

◆ **In which places and with which faces is risk management getting in the way of rescue and redemption?**

Respond

During our time together, what we are learning should be accompanied by an active response to what God is doing in our hearts. How we respond to God shows our willingness to let God direct our daily lives.

◆ **Which of your "neighbors" will you take a risk to connect with this week?**

◆ **Which of your "neighbors" will require some preparation to connect with?**

Write an "I will" statement:

I will _____.

Will you continue to meet as a group for encouragement and growth? Take some time to talk as a group about what is next.

Pray Together

Praying for one another is an essential part of following Jesus. How can we pray for you as you follow Jesus?