

The Character of Justice
Week 2: From Apathy to Compassion
Luke 10:25-37

Luke 7:13; 15:20; Romans 3:21-26; 1 John 4:7-12

1. What is the motive behind the lawyer's question? How does Jesus respond? What does Jesus see in the lawyer?
2. What is the irony of the parable that Jesus tells? What is Jesus' point here? How does he answer the lawyer's question?
3. When the Samaritan sees the half-dead man on the road, he had "compassion." What does that really mean? Read Luke 7:13 and 15:20. How did Jesus model "compassion"? Can you think of a time when you had genuine "compassion" for someone? How did you respond?
4. Read **Romans 3:21-26** and **1 John 4:7-12**. How is Jesus both "just" and the "one who justifies"? How does God's love for us provide the foundation for our own concrete, compassionate acts of Biblical justice?
5. Where are you on your own journey of obedience to God's command to "love your neighbor as yourself"? Struggling with apathy and indifference? Sympathetic but unable or unwilling to take action? Responding with compassion and concrete action?
6. Which of the following challenges will you continue to apply this week?
 - Think from the inside out, not the outside in.
 - Widen your table, instead of insulating and isolating.
 - Get closer to the problem, instead of running away out of fear or pride.
 - Spend more time building relationships than building your brand.
 - Do something that shows up on your bank statement and your calendar.