

# Weekly Study Guide

The week of February 16, 2014

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## Daily Readings

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Monday	Luke 10: 25-37	Tuesday	Romans 5:7-9	Wednesday	Psalm 119: 41-48
Thursday	Hebrews 13:1-3	Friday	Romans 8: 1-4	Saturday	Matthew 5:7-9

*My notes on this week's readings...*

## Next Week in Worship

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**Next week's message:** *Being the Beloved*

**Next week's readings:** 1 John 4:7-10, John 17:20-26

We have been unpacking what God means by "Love" through this series, and most important in our understanding of love is knowing that we have first been loved by God! We can't know what love is, independent of God's love for us. When we know and understand that we are God's beloved ones, we begin to be able to reflect that love genuinely to the world.

first lutheran church

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# Group Discussion

Connect	<p>Was there ever a time when someone helped you in an unexpected way?</p> <p>Have you ever felt that God has called you to help someone else in a spontaneous way?</p>
Learn	<p><b>Read Luke 10:25-37.</b> Reading this parable, imagine you are the priest or Levite in this story. What are you thinking or feeling in this situation? What are your motivations to decide what you do?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Look at this parable again and imagine you are the Good Samaritan in this story. What might you be thinking and feeling? What are your motivations to do what you decide to do?</li><li>• Now look at this parable as if you were the lawyer asking Jesus the question about “inheriting eternal life”, and asking, “Who is my neighbor?” How would this parable convict you? How would this parable inspire you? How would it frustrate you? What would it make you think about what Jesus is saying about the character of God?</li><li>• Now look at this parable as if you were the wounded Jewish man, stripped, bleeding , helpless and dying. What would you think about the Samaritan? What would you think about the priest and the levite?</li></ul> <p>How do you think the unchurched world sees the church? Good or bad? Why do you think they see the church that way?</p> <p>How do you think the unchurched world sees Jesus? Good or bad? Why do you think they see Jesus that way?</p> <p><b>Read John 3:16-17.</b> What do you think the world needs to know about Jesus? How do we, as His people, share that message best with the world?</p>
Apply	<p>Do you ever fall into the trap of thinking that you can earn the saving love of God?</p> <p>When you live out of the truth that in Jesus, God paid the price for you, how does that change the ways you choose to live out that love in the world? Perfect love casts out fear! Write something on your mirror this week to remind you: He loved you first!</p>
Pray	<p>God calls us to love our enemies and pray for those who persecute us. Is there anyone in your life that you might usually consider an ‘enemy’ for any reason– someone with whom you are at odds today? Intentionally pray for that person this week and see how God changes your heart!</p>