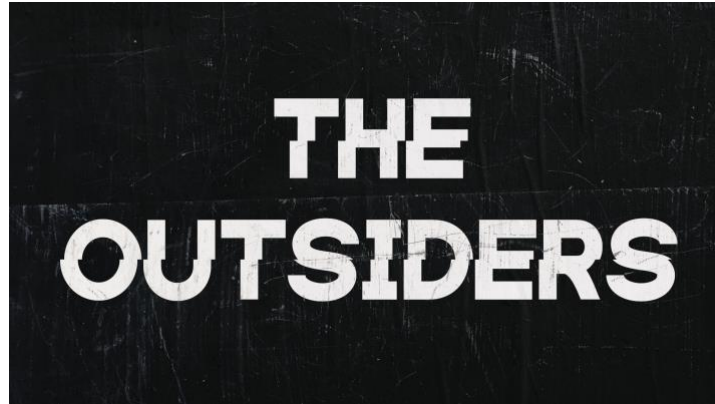


SERIES DISCUSSION GUIDE



THE OUTSIDERS
ABE MATOS
OCTOBER 19, 2025

To view the message, visit rpc.me/messages.

MESSAGE RECAP

In the final week of *The Outsiders* series, we looked at one of Jesus' most famous stories, the parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25–37). It's more than a story about kindness; it's a picture of the gospel. We are the broken traveler left on the side of the road, unable to fix ourselves, and Jesus is the one who stops, heals, and restores us.

Jesus also used this story to challenge our assumptions about love and mercy. The “hero” was a Samaritan, someone the original audience despised, showing us that God's love crosses every barrier we build. Real love usually costs us something: our time, our comfort, even our assumptions.

WARM-UP QUESTION

- What's one time you experienced kindness from a stranger or got to help someone you didn't know? How did it impact you?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Read Luke 10:25–29. The man asks, “Who is my neighbor?” When you think of that word, who comes to mind, and who *doesn't*?
2. Why do you think we sometimes want to *limit* who counts as our neighbor?
3. Read Luke 10:30–32. Both the priest and the Levite saw the man but walked by. What are some reasons we might avoid getting involved when we see someone in need?

4. Read Luke 10:33–35. The Samaritan’s love wasn’t convenient — it cost him time, energy, and resources.
 - When did he come across this half-dead man? (*Hint: not on a mission trip or in a “perfect” moment — he was just on his way.*)
 - Most of the time, opportunities to love people show up in the middle of our plans. How ready are you to pause your schedule and respond with compassion when it’s not convenient? What usually gets in the way?
5. Jesus makes the Samaritan, someone despised by His audience, the hero. What does that say about God’s heart for people we might overlook, judge or avoid?
 - Who might that be in your world right now, and what would it look like to “cross the road” toward them?
6. Reread Luke 10:35. The Samaritan could have done the bare minimum, but instead he said, “I’ll come back.” He wasn’t just generous, he was committed.
 - How are you doing at following up with people God’s placed in your path, not just helping once, but walking with them as they heal and grow?
 - Where might God be inviting you to stay involved instead of stepping back too soon?
7. Abe said, “If your gospel stops where your comfort ends, it’s not the gospel of Jesus.” What comfort zones might be limiting how you love others?
8. Read Luke 10:36-37. Jesus ends the story with a challenge: “Go and do likewise.” What would that look like for you in your workplace, neighborhood, or relationships this week?

APPLICATION QUESTION (*This section is designed to invite group members to reflect on and do on their own throughout the week.*)

1. Think of one person you tend to avoid, overlook, or make assumptions about. What’s one practical step you could take this week to “cross the road” — to listen, show kindness, or serve them in a way that reflects the love of Jesus?

CLOSING PRAYER

Your closing prayer can include:

1. **Gratitude** – *Jesus, thank You for stopping for us when we were broken and unable to help ourselves.*
2. **New insights & Guidance**– *Teach us to love beyond our comfort zones and reflect Your compassion in our everyday lives. Give us the courage to cross the road this week, to see people as You see them and to respond with Your kind of love. Amen*

LEADERS

On **November 8**, serve with your group to package meals for hungry kids in need. Meals 4 Kids is a global mission effort in your own backyard and kid-friendly. Our goal is to package 200,000 meals for kids who don’t have access to nutritious food. We have three time slots available. Register at rpc.me/events.

Also, remind your group - starting **Sunday, November 2**, our 9:30am service is moving up to 9:15am. Encourage members to mark their calendars!