

LOVE THY NEIGHBOUR

DISCUSSION GUIDE



Watch *Love Thy Neighbour* with your small group. Allow participants opportunity to share their thoughts on images or points that particularly stood out, things that intrigued or raised questions for them.



Read James 2:14-20 and Matthew 25:31-40 out loud with your group. Allow time to consider the texts and reflect on the case presented in the film.



DISCUSS

1. Behavioural scientist Dr Steve Maraboli delivers this powerful challenge: “Don’t tell me about your god with your words. Show me about your god with your actions.” Isn’t the primary role of the Christian to preach, teach and baptize? (Matthew 28:19-20) How did Jesus spend His time? In what ways do ‘good works’ fit with Jesus’ command to His followers?
2. Have you heard of the expression “rice Christians”? What does it mean? There is another expression: “There’s no such thing as a free lunch.” Christians are sometimes accused of performing humanitarian acts for the sole purpose of gaining new converts. Are these accusations fair? Does conversion always have to be on the agenda? Can good works done in Jesus’ name be sufficient in and of themselves?
3. The night before Jesus’ death, the Disciple Peter denied knowing Him three times. Years later Peter approached things differently. “Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.” (1 Peter 3:15 NIV) Is sharing our faith at odds with the idea of healing and helping? Why? Why not? Must good works be limited to physical needs only?
4. Read Micah 6:8. Is it enough simply to claim Jesus’ name, or is more required of the believer? What about morality? At what point does declaring oneself moral imply a call to action or require one to make a stand? What things might you do to help heal the people’s hurts and make the world a better place?



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