



# THE RIDGE

## COMMUNITY CHURCH

### Day 12: Love Others

*Jesus replied, "You must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind." This is the first and greatest commandment. A second is equally important: "Love your neighbor as yourself." The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments."*

Love your neighbor as yourself. But who is my neighbor?

There is a parable that Jesus tells in [Luke 10:25-37](#) which makes immediately clear that our 'neighbor' is not limited to the person living next door, or to our family members and friends. Moreover, 'loving' appears not to be limited to friendly chats or warm feelings. 'Loving your neighbor' can be really challenging.

The Samaritan in the parable was a non-Jew. That fact alone would have been enough reason not to help the robbed man, since Samaritans and Jews generally despised and avoided each other. But this man is a positive exception. He takes care of somebody in need with whom he normally would not have any relationship. That went way beyond his comfort zone.

And that's exactly what Jesus calls 'loving your neighbor'. His conclusion is clear: "You go, and do likewise".

We should not just care for people we like and have close relationships with, but for everybody in need who crosses our path. That's a huge challenge!

#### REFLECT:

- Read Luke [10:25-37](#) if you have not already
- What is one small step you can take today to live this out?
- Ask for God's help and guidance as you try to obey this command.