

SESSION TEN: How can I love God and my neighbour? *Luke 10 v 25-42*
Full Route

1. It's hugely important! If there is eternal perfect life with God, how we get it is more crucial than any other question we can ask.
2. Essentially, the man's answer is that to have eternal life, we need to love God with everything we have, and love our neighbour as well as we love ourself.
3. This is a very important question. It matters because it's about how we should treat other people in God's world, and what it looks like to obey God's teaching (v 27). You might well feel it's not *as* important as the question in v 25, though!
4. To really grasp the shock of these verses, you need to know who each of these people are. The first is a Jewish priest, set apart to serve God. A Levite is another term for "priest"—and both these men pass the half-dead man by. Samaritans were hated by the Jews, and considered worthless—so it would have been very shocking for Jewish ears to hear that, of the three men, it's the Samaritan who takes pity on the injured Jew.
5. The Samaritan has pity, unlike the men we'd expect to, the Jewish religious elite (v 31-32).
The Samaritan actively gives up time and effort to help the needy man.
The Samaritan gives financially for the sake of the man, and is willing to give more.
6. To do the work, as her question suggests. She is very busy doing things, making preparations and working for Jesus—and she's getting very cross that Mary isn't helping her!
7. Jesus says the most important thing is to do what "Mary has chosen" (v 42). She "sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said" (v 39), and Jesus says she has "chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her". The important thing to see is that what ultimately counts, eternally, is having a relationship with Jesus, spending time with and listening to him. It is not what we do, but who we know, that counts!
8. One suggestion would be making sure we spend a bit of time each day listening to Jesus speak to us in the Bible, and speaking to him in prayer. (If this is a new idea, the next two sessions conveniently focus on praying!)