

What Do You Owe?

Romans 13:8-10

Review:

1. We owe a debt of love to everyone.
2. The last five commandments give a negative example of love, telling us what sorts of behaviors love avoids

Go Further: Read Luke 10:25-37 – a positive example of love

1. How does the scribe summarize the Law of Moses in verse 27? What two relationships does the Law regulate?
2. What question does the scribe ask Jesus in verse 29, and why does he ask this?
3. What is the traveler's problem in verse 30?
4. What good reasons might the priest and the Levite have given themselves for not helping the traveler, even though we presume he was a Jew like them?
5. How is the Samaritan's reaction to the traveler different from that of the priest and Levite in verse 33?
6. What seven things does the Samaritan do for the traveler? What did these things cost the Samaritan?
7. To what does the Samaritan obligate himself in verse 35?
8. At the end of the story, what instruction does Jesus give the scribe?

Apply:

1. In what ways do we, like the scribe, try to place limits on "Who is my neighbor?" Why do we do this?
2. Jews hated Samaritans because of their mixed ethnic background and because of their different beliefs. What sorts of groups in our society tend to distrust each other and for what reasons?
3. Given the example of the Good Samaritan, what sorts of actions does love for a neighbor include? What limits should we place on the love we give to others?