

## **Week 15 – Parables About Discipleship – Part I (Review)**

### **Day 1: Overview**

**Read Matthew 5:16-20, 43-48, Romans 2:6-13**

1. What did you learn from the teaching last night (if you didn't hear the message, listen to it online at [trinitygrace.org](http://trinitygrace.org))?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Are the passages you read today describing hypothetical obedience or real obedience? Explain.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. How important is our obedience to God's commands? What does our obedience reveal?

### **Day 2: Blessings and Curses**

**Read Deuteronomy 28**

1. According to this passage, what will bring blessings and what will bring curses?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Notice that there are almost four times as many verses dedicated to curses as there are verses dedicated to blessings. Why do you think this is the case?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. What application does this have for us today?

### **Day 3: Contrast**

#### **Read Matthew 6 – 7, Luke 6:17-49**

1. As with the contrast of blessings and curses read and discussed yesterday, Jesus also used contrasts in his teaching. List some contrasts that Jesus used from today's reading (example: temporary treasures vs. eternal treasures – Matthew 6:19-21).
2. Why is contrasting two things a good teaching tool? How does it help us understand the lesson being taught?
3. How do contrasts such as these support the concept that there are two ways to live, one of life and one of death, and no in-between?
4. Now relate your answers above to the parable of the Two Builders. How does Jesus use contrast to show the two ways to live in this parable?

### **Day 4: The Good Samaritan**

#### **Read Deuteronomy 6:4-9 (The Shema), Leviticus 19:18, Luke 10:25-37**

1. The lawyer answered Jesus' question correctly, likely because of either his daily repetition of the Shema (with a combined understanding of the Leviticus passage) or from previous interaction with Jesus. Therefore, he knew the law but he was limited in understanding the full application and extent of the law. Do we have the same problem? In what areas of your life do you limit your application of Scripture and the law?

2. Have you thought about love as being law, and not only is it law, but it is a full summary of the law? What implications come from this?
3. What did Luke mean when he said that the lawyer was “desiring to justify himself” (vs. 29)?

## **Day 5: Neighbors**

### **Read Luke 10:25-37**

“Give to the devout, but do not help the sinner. Do good to the humble, but do not give to the ungodly; hold back their bread, and do not give it to them...”

Sirach 12:4-5  
(Jewish Apocryphal Writing)

1. What existing Jewish beliefs about neighbors was Jesus confronting in the parable of the Good Samaritan (see Sirach quote above)? Who did they think was and was not their neighbor?
2. Who is your neighbor? To whom are you being a neighbor? Are there any that you are excluding?
3. With our current globalization, the definition of neighbor extends well past those that we come into direct contact with. List some ways that you can be a neighbor and show love to those outside our city, state, and nation.