

Today's Message: "Imagine: Living Out an Extraordinary Calling to Love"

Stories of Love

²⁵ One day an expert in religious law stood up to test Jesus by asking him this question: "Teacher, what should I do to inherit eternal life?" ²⁶ Jesus replied, "What does the law of Moses say? How do you read it?" ²⁷ The man answered, "'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your strength, and all your mind.' And, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" ²⁸ "Right!" Jesus told him. "Do this and you will live!" ²⁹ The man wanted to justify his actions, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"... ³⁶ "Now which of these three would you say was a neighbor to the man who was attacked by bandits?" Jesus asked. ³⁷ The man replied, "The one who showed him mercy." Then Jesus said, "Yes, now go and do the same." (Luke 10:25-29, 36-37 NLT)

Parable of the Good Samaritan

- We are to set aside our prejudice and judgments and show love and compassion for others.
- Our neighbor is anyone we encounter.

Revelation 5

- Jesus is worthy!
- Jesus ransomed people for God from every tribe, language, people, and nation by His sacrifice.

Tax collectors and other notorious sinners often came to listen to Jesus teach. ² This made the Pharisees and teachers of religious law complain that he was associating with such sinful people—even eating with them! ³ So Jesus told them this story: ⁴ "If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them gets lost, what will he do? Won't he leave the ninety-nine others in the wilderness and go to search for the one that is lost until he finds it? ⁵ And when he has found it, he will joyfully carry it home on his shoulders. ⁶ When he arrives, he will call together his friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me because I have found my lost sheep.' ⁷ In the same way, there is more joy in heaven over one lost sinner who repents and returns to God than over ninety-nine others who are righteous and haven't strayed away!" (Luke 15:1-7, NLT)

Parables of the Lost Trilogy

- Jesus' message: costly love
- God has a tender heart of concern for those who are lost and He is ready to pay any price to win them and to bring them home.

"Imagine"

Shannon Libengood

November 4 & 5, 2017

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- OrphanCare
- Justice Team
- Embrace Life
- LAMP
- Refugee Care

Your One

- Prayerfully ask God to show you your one.
- Take your one next step.
- Attend the Imagine Conference and find your one!
- Register: www.imagineconferencepgh.com

*For more information about the Perspectives Course visit:
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Small Group or Personal Reflection Questions:

1. What's a story you've heard recently that tugged at your heart? Why are stories so good at capturing our attention?
2. Read Luke 10:25-37
Why does this man ask Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" In what ways do we do the same thing? When was the last time you let your heart break for your neighbor?
3. Read Luke 15:1-10
What can you observe about God's love in these two stories?
Why are these stories an appropriate response to the Pharisees' complaint in verse 2?
4. Who is the "one" that God has placed in your life this season?
What one step will you take this week to show love to this "one"?

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