

# **"WHO IS MY NEIGHBOR?"**

1. What was the greatest commandment in your home growing up? Keep your hands to yourself? Cleanliness in next to godliness? Etc.  

---
2. How would you articulate the greatest commandment that Jesus mentions in Mark 12:28-31? Why do you think Jesus combines the commandments to love God and love your neighbor as one inseparable command?  

---
3. Discuss the apparent tension between Paul's emphasis on salvation by grace through faith (Ephesians 2:8-9) and James' emphasis on justification by works (James 2:21, 25, 24). How do you reconcile these seemingly different perspectives? How does Paul define "works" in the context of salvation, and how does James define "faith"?  

---
4. James talks about having a faith that works itself out in actions (James 2:14-17). How do you understand the relationship between faith and works in your daily life? What does it mean for our theology to be practical and lived out in our actions?  

---
5. Reflect on the statement: "Paul and James do not stand face to face, fighting against each other, but they stand back to back, fighting opposite foes." How does this imagery help in understanding their perspectives?  

---
6. How does the life of Jesus exemplify a theology that is enfleshed and actively involved in meeting the needs of others? In what ways do you see the teachings of Jesus being applied practically in your own life and in the life of your church community?  

---
7. Explore the different interpretations of "love your neighbor" and discuss how understanding our similarity to others impacts our ability to love them.  

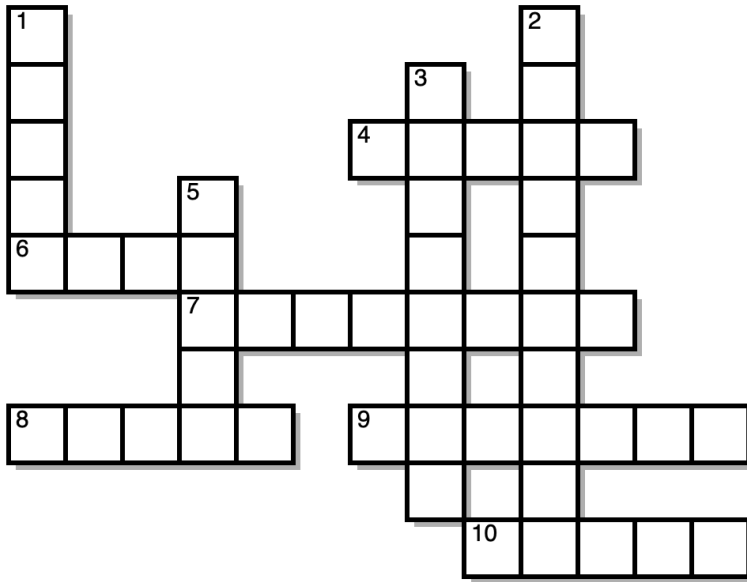
---
8. How does recognizing our own sinfulness and unworthiness contribute to a spirit of thanksgiving?  

---
9. Discuss the idea that compassion on our enemies begins with thanksgiving. How can gratitude for God's grace enable us to forgive and have compassion on those who may hurt us?  

---

---



**Across**

- 4 "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the \_\_\_\_\_ of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." (Matthew 25:40)
- 6 "What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works. Can that faith \_\_\_\_\_ him?..." (James 2:14)
- 7 "For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for \_\_\_\_\_" (Galatians 5:6)
- 8 "You see that a person is justified by works and not by \_\_\_\_\_ alone." (James 2:24)
- 9 "But \_\_\_\_\_ will say, 'You have faith and I have works. Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.'" (James 2:18)
- 10 "Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up his son \_\_\_\_\_ on the altar?" (James 2:21)

**Down**

- 1 "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by \_\_\_\_\_, so that no one can boast." (Ephesians 2:8-9)
- 2 "And in the same way was not also Rahab the prostitute justified by works when she received the \_\_\_\_\_ and sent them out by another way?" (James 2:25)
- 3 "He said to him, 'What is written in the law? How do you read it?' And he answered, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your \_\_\_\_\_ as yourself.'" (Luke 10:26-27)
- 5 'HEAR, O ISRAEL! THE LORD OUR GOD IS ONE LORD; AND YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR \_\_\_\_\_.'" (Mark 12:29-30)

**WORD SEARCH:**

- Commandment    Torah
- Lawyer            Justification
- Love              James
- God                Holiness
- Neighbor        Revenge
- Inherit           Grudge
- Grace             Thanksgiving
- Faith              Sinfulness
- Works             Forgiveness
- Sheep             Compassion
- Goats              Gratitude

N R S K L S V R F C D T L B K J  
 S O L S T A E G O A H N C R V L  
 S B I A E V W M R A I O L R X T  
 E H O T E N P Y N U M T S D N B  
 N G G N A A E K E M D I H Y D X  
 I I G R S C S V A R N G T N V R  
 L E S S A G I N I F Y I E D J N  
 O N I K I T D F U G R S E M A J  
 H O S V R M I L I E R C D O G M  
 N A I H E O N T H T A O L R N R  
 T N R N E E W N U R S O F J B R  
 G M T O S E I T G D V U L X R Z  
 W J L S T L P X Y E E N J D N Q