

Unselfishness and True Development



Week Five

inTro



Read This Week's Passage:
Luke 10:25–37

TO LOVE MORE THAN SELF

The foundation of creation was love. Unlike the creator in other creation narratives from ancient texts, the God of the Bible did not create the world so He could be served; He created it because He is love. His love can be seen in every aspect of the creation story, but it is perhaps most powerfully expressed in the manner in which He created Adam and Eve and the purpose He instilled in them to achieve. Love is also the foundation of redemption. “God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life” (John 3:16). The story of redemption teaches us that God loved us more than He loved Himself.

Since love is the basis of creation and redemption, it is also the basis of real education. To love God with heart, mind, soul, and strength means that in the whole being, every aspect of development is to reach its highest attainment in unselfish love for God.

“Like the first is the second commandment, ‘Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.’ Mark 12:31. The law of love calls for the devotion of body, mind, and soul to the service of God and humanity. This service, while making us a blessing to others, brings the greatest blessing to ourselves. Unselfishness underlies all true development. Through unselfish service we receive the highest culture of every faculty. More and more fully do we become part-takers of the divine nature. We are fitted for heaven, for we receive heaven into our hearts” (*Education*, 16).



inScribe

Write out Luke 10:25-37 from the translation of your choice. You may also re-write the passage in your own words, outline, or mind-map the chapter.



Go back to your scribed text and study the passage.

Circle repeated words/phrases/ideas

Underline words/phrases that are important and have meaning to you



Draw **Arrows** to connect words/phrases to other associated or related words/phrases

What special insights do your marks seem overall to point to?



Memorize your favorite verse in Luke 10:25–37. Write it out multiple times to help with memorization.

In what way do you identify with each of the six characters of the parable?



Read more at www.inversebible.org/edu05-3

A large grid of small dots for writing answers to the questions on the page.



After looking at your scribed and annotated text, what special insights do your marks seem to point to overall?



What questions emerge after studying this passage? What parts are difficult?

What other principles and conclusions do you find?

Who is your neighbor this week, and do you love her/him as yourself?



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www.inverseible.org/edu05-4



What relationship do the following verses have with the primary passage?

- 1 Corinthians 13
- Colossians 3:12–15
- Ephesians 5:25–29



What other verses come to mind in connection with unselfishness?

Review your memorized verse from Luke 10:25–37.



Meditate on Luke 10:25–37
again, and look for where Jesus is.



How does God's sublime love inspire you to higher forms of giving, changing, and loving others?

What is He saying to you through these texts?

How do you see Jesus differently or see Him again?

Prayer: How do you respond to seeing Jesus in this way?



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Review the memory verse.
How does it apply to your
life this week?



After this week's study of
the chapter, what personal
applications must you make
in your private life regarding
unselfishness?

What practical applications
must you make in your social
life regarding unselfishness?

A large grid of small dots for writing answers to the reflection questions.



Read more inSight from the
Spirit of Prophecy at
www.inverseible.org/edu05-7



Share insights from this week's memory verse and Bible study as well as any discoveries, observations, and questions with your Sabbath School class (or Bible study group). Consider these discussion questions with the rest of the group.



What are some obvious ways that humanity loves selfishly?

What are non-obvious ways of selfishness that are often unmentioned?

How would Christ's manifestation of unselfishness address the above?

How does unselfishness underlie all true development? Give secular and biblical examples.

Who is your church's neighbor? Who is your personal neighbor that you can stop avoiding, start seeing, serving, and loving?

How can we inspire more good Samaritans?

In what way did your education prepare you for unselfish service? In what way did it fail?

Why is the incarnation of Christ connected to an education for service?