

The backstory:

Luke 10:25-37

A question, an answer, questioning the answer, Truth.

The heart of the answer is love like God loves.

Why we miss the point.

- I am more concerned about whose fault it is.
- I predetermine the place help comes from.

God meets us in our circumstances personally.

- **Wine** - cleansing
- **Oil** - soothing; pain relief
- **Bandages** - healing protection
- **Rest** - cease to struggle
- **Recovery** - renewal over time
- **Provision** - all that you need, today and tomorrow

Our response:

We can stay alone in our circumstances.

We can invite God into our circumstances.

We can be open to God changing our circumstances.

We can be open to God changing us in our circumstances.

Many of our Life Groups use this insert as a discussion guide throughout the week. We encourage you to take that next step in your journey with Jesus & His church by joining one today! www.seekreallife.com/groups

Share your story

What insight, question, or resolution did you discover from our time of worship together on Sunday?

Check the circumstances below where you have been most challenged this fall?

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Job | <input type="checkbox"/> School |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Relationships | <input type="checkbox"/> Possessions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Self-Image | <input type="checkbox"/> Health |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finances | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

When these circumstances don't go the way you dreamed they would, what do you do?

Connect to God's story

Read Ecclesiastes 2:1-11 & 5:10-12.

What are 2-3 ways the author explores to try to affect his circumstances? How successful was he?

Why do you think it's so easy to fall into this trap of letting our circumstances steal our joy or lead us into worry?

Read the following passages and write down what can help you know what to do with the circumstances you find yourself in:

Proverbs 12:1, 15 -

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 -

Hebrews 13:5 -

Can you think of examples of how these passages (or similar ones) have helped you remain content in spite of your life's circumstances?

Your story matters. *Have you ever experienced a time where you invited God into your circumstance? Perhaps it's a tense relationship with a co-worker or family member? Maybe it's an upcoming layoff at work or an unexpected hospital visit. God can use your story - even if it's not finished yet - to strengthen our Real Life Community so consider sharing yours today: [rlc.pub/story](https://www.rlc.pub/story)*

**Since God cares for you,
let Him carry all your burdens and worries.
- 1 Peter 5:7 (The Voice)**

My Prayer for 2019

My Lord and Savior Jesus, thank you for your gift of grace to me. My soul hungers for you. I want to know you - not just intellectually, but relationally. I give you permission to tear down every false thought, every lie, and every stronghold the Enemy has established within me.

I will pursue my relationship with you with my whole heart. I will hold nothing back from you. I am open and willing to receive the good things you have planned for me.

I ask:

- Work your good in me so that I might reflect you more.
- Work your good for me so that I might receive all that you intend for me.
- Work your good through me so that all around me, people will experience your love and goodness and be drawn to you.

I am open and ready for all you will do in, for, and through me.
I love you, Jesus.

Amen