

Immigration 9<sup>th</sup> in the "#Trending" Series Luke 22:39 – 53, p. 882 August 11th, 2019 Pastor Casey Ehlers

- 1. Why is immigration such a debated and difficult topic?
- a. It is robustly political.
- b. It is robustly complicated.
- c. It is a *jagged-line* issue with *straight-line* segments.
- 2. God's definition of justice requires a heart for the foreigner.
- a. Zechariah 7:8-10 Page 795
- i. Widow, Orphan, Poor, Foreigner (Sojourner)
- b. Deuteronomy 24:17-22 Page 166 (Leviticus 19:9-10)
- c. Leviticus 19:33-34 Page 98
- 3. Jesus calls the church to radical and sacrificial love of enemy. (Luke 22:39-53)

**Application:** Our biblical view of *people* **must** inform our *policy* (not the other way around).

- (1) Learn about the refugees local to our community (Rockford)
- (2) Pray for wisdom for our nation's leaders.
- (3) Commit to listening, learning, and soft speech.

## **Small Group Questions**

- 1. Why is immigration such a debated and difficult topic?
- 2. What questions do you still have about immigration?
- 3. How is immigration a "jagged-line issue with straight-line segments?"
- 4. What does the Old Testament teach about justice and the foreigner?
- 5. How does the Old Testament's teaching on justice inform Christian convictions concerning immigration?
- 6. What stands out to you about Jesus's actions in Luke 22:39-53?
- 7. How does this text (Luke 22) inform a Christian response concerning immigration?
- 8 Does Jesus's example of his "radical love of enemy" challenge or confront your convictions concerning immigration or illegal aliens?
- 9 How does the category of *"Faithful-Presence Within"* guide a church's response to the immigration crisis?

**Further Bible Reading:** Luke 4:14-30; Luke 10:25-37; James 1-3 (*especially 1:19-27; 2:14-26; & 3:1-12*)

**Book Recommendations:** *Generous Justice* by Tim Keller; *Christians at the Border* by M. Daniel Carroll R., and *Beyond Smoke and Mirrors* by Massey, Durand, and Malone