

NEIGHBOR GOOD | 8-14-16

REFLECT & DISCUSS

We all have neighbors...some we get along with, some we always seem to upset, some that meticulously care for their yard, and others that prolong conversations way longer than they should go on. Regardless of the neighbors that surround us, Jesus doesn't call us to ignore them. He doesn't even call us to like them. He calls us to love them. How often do you interact with your neighbors? Do you have any funny stories from your neighborhood? What intentions do you have about getting to know your neighbors better? How do we neighbor good?

READ: *Luke 10:25-29*

Why do you think Jesus answers this man's question with a question? What is the man's answer? Jesus tells him to do this and he will live. Being an expert in the law, this man knew a lot, but he struggled with living what he learned. What is the problem with knowledge without action? What opportunities do we miss when we don't intentionally love our neighbors through our actions?

READ: *Matthew 14:13-20*

What needs did Jesus meet in this Scripture? What do you think would have happened if Jesus insisted on teaching without feeding the people? What did Jesus communicate to them by giving them more than what they needed? What are some words you would use to describe Jesus in this Scripture? How can we love our neighbors the way Jesus loved his neighbors in this example?

READ: *Matthew 22:34-40*

As Christians, we spend a lot of time on the first commandment. Why is it harder to spend time on the second greatest commandment? Why does Jesus give the second greatest commandment so much importance? What causes us to sometimes neighbor bad? What are some ways you've seen others neighbor good?

CHALLENGE

Commit to neighboring good. Think of a neighbor (*can be in your physical neighborhood or beyond*) who doesn't have a church home and may not know Jesus as the hope of their life. Intentionally connect with them this week.

PRAYER

Jesus, you were an incredible neighbor. You made everyone who came to you feel accepted, loved, and valued. Teach me to neighbor like you did. Help me to grow as a neighbor by intentionally loving others as myself.