

April 17, 2016
The Art of Neighboring
The great commandment literally?
Pastor Rick Rufenacht



Mark 12:28 - 31 **Luke 10:25 - 37**

Develop Friendships

Romans 15:2

Discover People's Stories

John 4:15 - 18 ; 27 - 30

Devote Some Time

Job 2:12-13

Determine Next Steps

Acts 17:26-27

When you think of the word neighbor, what attributes come to mind?

Think of a someone that lived near you in the past that was a great neighbor. What made this neighbor great?

Think of a neighbor in the past that was challenging. What made this neighbor challenging? Looking back, what things could you have done that might have improved this relationship?

Read John 4:1-26. As we read this passage, what can we learn that would aid us in the art of neighboring?

Read Matthew 22:34-40. Why do you think these two topics are so very important to Christ?

In your life, what interferes with you accomplishing these commandments?

If we applied the art of neighboring as Christ modeled, what impact would this have on our neighborhood, community and country?

Being an active neighbor, with a mission in mind, can be a very challenging goal. In your own neighborhood, what obstacles do you see that will make this goal very challenging?

Think back to when you were a child...how has neighboring and neighborhoods changed since then? What can you personally do to bring back the things you miss about neighboring? It has to start somewhere with someone...why not make a decision to be that person.

What are some tangible things you can do to begin the art of neighboring to those that live near you? Write some below:

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In the upcoming weeks, begin implement these great ideas.

Jesus, when speaking of neighbors, was more than likely speaking about everyone we are around anywhere we go. Pick two places you frequent, and as a group, discuss what it means to be a neighbor while we are out and about.

In Philippians 2:3 we read: Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves. What does this look like in everyday life as we work at neighboring?

In the upcoming week, look for opportunities to serve your neighbors. Begin to pray for them daily and see what God does.