

Thursday, September 24

This is the challenge mentioned in the message. On the top line write the name or names of the people who live in that house. On the second line write some relevant information about each person – something you can simply observe from your driveway; their jobs, hobbies, where they grew up – simple facts about them. The third line is the most challenging; write some in-depth information you would know after connecting with people. Maybe their career goals, motivations for being in different organizations, perhaps their fears or even what they might have shared about their beliefs or God.

a.	a.	a.
b.	b.	b.
c.	c.	c.
a.		a.
b.		b.
c.		c.
a.	a.	a.
b.	b.	b.
c.	c.	c.

This is a tough assignment. About 10 % can fill in the first line for every home. About 3 % can fill in fully the second line. Less than 1% can fill out the third for every home.

Friday, September 25

This is a catch up day in addition to the days to come. Begin to think how you might be able to interact with your neighbors so that you may fill in the rest of your blanks!

Message Notes – September 20, 2020

The Art of Neighboring – *A Call to Neighboring* *

- I. The definition of neighbors and neighborliness has _____ over the years.
 - A. It even affects the exterior _____ and floor plan of our homes.
 - B. We moved from unannounced social visits to good _____ make good neighbors to a norm of _____.

- II. The lawyer in our story from Luke’s gospel asked a question we should consider today. It’s a _____ question: Who is my neighbor?
 - A. The lawyer first asked, “What must I do to inherit _____ life?”
 - B. Jesus commends the lawyer for his correct answer, tells him that if he does those two things – basically to love God and others – he will _____.
 - C. Jesus ends the _____ between himself and the lawyer by telling a parable – a story.
 1. It’s the Parable of the _____ Samaritan.
 2. It’s about unexpected kindness by an unlikely _____.
 3. It’s about the rigidity of religious laws and how that rigidity leads to a lack of _____.

- III. When we consider this exchange between Jesus and the lawyer there are a few challenges to us, because we are living in a different _____ than Jesus and the lawyer.
 - A. First, there is the _____ of the lawyer.

*Luke 10:25-37

B. Second, there are some potential problems with Jesus' story of The Good Samaritan; primarily, the _____.

C. A second problem I have with the Parable of the Good Samaritan is we read two thousand years later and turn it into a metaphor which numbs the _____ of this lesson.

IV. What if we took Jesus' words _____? What if we tried to understand them in a _____ way? What if we took Jesus' words _____.

A. You know the language of our Mission Statement is very _____. There is a reason it is not "Changing ____ World with Christ's love.

1. We wanted it to be practical and meaningful. That's why it's "Changing ____ World with Christ's love."
2. It's simply not practical to say we're going to change the world – but we can change our world and we can begin with our _____ with our neighbors.

B. Loving our neighbor is of _____ importance and I pray that we will begin to consider this day an invitation to the Art of Neighboring.

Daily Meditations and Study Guide

The following is a daily meditation and study guide meant to enhance your understanding of the message and grow as a Christian.

It is offered for your personal reflection or to share with others.

Monday, September 21

Read Luke 10:25-37. How have neighborhoods and even our homes changed over the years – that depicts different values and practices around neighboring? How might your childhood home been different from your home now? Write your thoughts here and pray for God's wisdom in becoming better neighbors for the purpose of stronger neighborhoods, communities and churches.

Tuesday, September 22

Read Luke 10:25-37. Notice fully the posture of the lawyer and how he was trying to justify himself. It was suggested in the message that the lawyer was looking for a loophole to avoid being accountable for others – for his neighbors.

How are we like that lawyer, looking for "loopholes" to avoid knowing our neighbors or helping them or finding ways to love them? Write your thoughts here and pray that God will show you how we begin the craft of becoming a better neighbor.

Wednesday, September 23

Read Luke 10:25-37. This third time of reading is to look for the ultimate importance of loving our neighbor. That is the initial quest of the lawyer in engaging Jesus in conversation. Think about the challenge of the question, "What if we took Jesus' words seriously? What if we considered it practically? What if we took it literally? Consider these thoughts and write your own here praying that God will show us a way to make the art of neighboring of ultimate importance.