

YOU WERE

MADE FOR THIS

LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR

FEBRUARY 6TH, 2022 | PASTOR GLEN BARNES

First

“Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. ³⁵ One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: ³⁶ “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?” ³⁷ Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ ⁴⁰ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

~ MATTHEW 22:34-40 (NIV)

FOUR OBSERVATIONS ABOUT JESUS' COMMAND TO LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF

1. When we love our neighbor

FIRST COMMAND: Love God (Deuteronomy 6:5)

SECOND COMMAND: Love Your Neighbor (Leviticus 19:18)

The SECOND

The FIRST!

2. When we love our neighbor

“All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

~ MATTHEW 22:40 (NIV)

3. When we love our neighbor

“Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.”

~ ACTS 2:46-47 (NIV)

“This is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says to all those I carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: ⁵ ‘Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce. ⁶ Marry and have sons and daughters; find wives for your sons and give your daughters in marriage, so that they too may have sons and daughters. Increase in number there; do not decrease. ⁷ Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.”

~ JEREMIAH 29:4-7 (NIV)

4. When we love our neighbor we unleash the

“ Now the overseer is to be above reproach, faithful to his wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, **HOSPITABLE**, able to teach”

~ 1 TIMOTHY 3:2A (NIV)

“ Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it.”

~ HEBREWS 13:2 (NIV)

“ For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in,”

~ MATTHEW 25:35 (NIV)

“ The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and you say, ‘Here is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners.’”

~ LUKE 7:34 (NIV)

SO WHAT?

How Can I love my Neighbor?

1. _____ your actual neighbors.

2. _____ to your neighbors.

Why Should I Invest Time and Energy to Love My Neighbor?

Your are Made for This!

“ God began by making one person, and from him came all the different people who live everywhere in the world. God decided exactly when and where they must live.”

~ ACTS 17:26 (NCV)

DISCUSSION Questions:

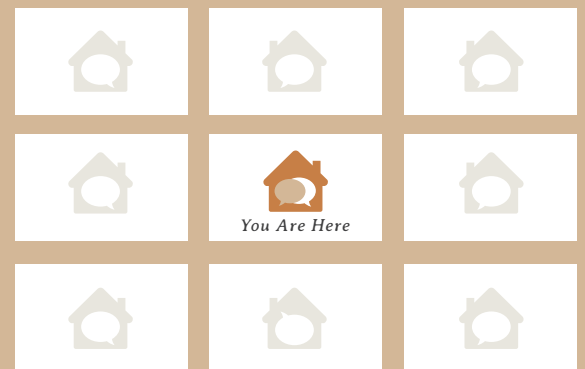
- 1 - How would you describe the perfect neighbor? How would you describe a terrible neighbor? How would you rate yourself as a neighbor on a scale on 1 to 10?
- 2 - One of the problems with a familiar scripture like Matthew 22:34-40 is we get so used to hearing it that we forget to ask what it really means in my life. Review the four observations from Jesus command to love your neighbor.
 - A - The second Command is like the first. What do you think Jesus ties the two commands so closely together. What do you think the pharisees would have originally thought about Jesus' words here?
 - B - How would you say that loving God and loving your neighbor would fulfill ALL the law and prophets?

Hospitality in New Testament:

PHILOXENIA: Literally

PHILO: Love
XENIA: Stanger

Who Is My Neighbor?



“ He answered, ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind’; and, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’”²⁸ “You have answered correctly,” **Jesus replied. “Do this and you will live.”**

~ LUKE 10:27-28 (NIV)

- C - Read Acts 2:46-47. What strikes you about the way the early church loved one another? What were the results of this? Read Jeremiah 29:4-7. This is God's commands to people living as exiles in Babylon. What strikes you about what God commands? How should the Israelites participate in their Babylonian culture and neighborhoods?
- D - Why do you believe Hospitality was such an essential part of the early churches success?
- 3 - Take time and share with your group a little about where you live. How many of the neighbors do you know by name that live around you? Is there anything you can do to take the next step in loving your actual neighbors? Share with each other and pray with each other about something you can do this week!