Neighbor ing

Love where you live.

Part 7: Seeing Differently

Aug 4 & 5, 2018 Todd King, Lead Vision Pastor

Do you remember the Neighborhood Block Map?

To love requires <u>time</u>, <u>attention</u>, and <u>desire</u>.

Two Feeding Stories

Matthew 14:13-21 and Matthew 15:29-38

Comparing the Feeding Stories

FEEDING OF THE 5000 FEEDING OF THE 4000

Location <u>Jewish</u> side of the lake <u>Gentile</u> side of the lake

Sequence <u>First</u> Second

Reaction <u>1 day</u>

<u>3 days</u>

- Salvation Is for <u>me and my kind</u> Is for <u>everyone</u>
- Leftovers <u>12</u> baskets 7 baskets

Isaiah 25:6-8

⁶ On this mountain the LORD Almighty will prepare

a feast of rich food for all peoples,

a banquet of aged wine—

the best of meats and the finest of wines.

⁷ On this mountain he will destroy

the shroud that enfolds all peoples,

the sheet that covers all nations;

⁸ he will swallow up death forever.

The Sovereign LORD will wipe away the tears

from all faces;
he will remove the disgrace of his people from all the earth.

The LORD has spoken.

The Point of the Two Stories

Have <u>compassion</u> for those who are not like us.

The <u>condition</u> of our neighbor has nothing to do with our love.

Our Challenge

- 1. <u>Pray</u> for freedom from prejudice
- 2. Fight your tendencies

3. <u>Share</u> a meal

Next Steps

If you don't have one already, pick up a Neighborhood Block Map today in the Commons or at the Neighboring display in the east hallway (Meeting Place hall). Write in the names of neighbors you know, and look for opportunities this week to learn the names of neighbors you don't know.

Small Group Questions

- 1. Reread the two stories of miraculous feedings by Jesus in Matthew (14:13-21 and 15:29-38). As you read them, what stands out to you?
- The disciples obviously didn't have much room for gentiles—those who were not part of their religion. Who do you think people don't have much "room for" in Whatcom County? Why?
- Is there a race/culture/socio-economic group you personally struggle with? Why do you think it's hard to love them?
- 4. Read Matthew 5:43-45. What sticks out from this passage?
- 5. How can we pray for you right now and throughout the week?