

How Do I, Neighbor?- Mission at Home

“The Word became flesh and blood, and moved into the neighborhood. We saw the glory with our own eyes, the one-of-a-kind glory, like Father, like Son, Generous inside and out, true from start to finish.”

John 1:14 MSG

Dwell- Κατοικέω (*katoikeō*)- To settle down, inhabit, or make one's permanent home.

“If Jesus moved toward people, transformed people move toward people.”

Big Idea: You can't love someone if you don't see them

³⁵ Jesus traveled through all the towns and villages of that area, teaching in the synagogues and announcing the Good News about the Kingdom. And he healed every kind of disease and illness. ³⁶ When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them because they were confused and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷ He said to his disciples, “The harvest is great, but the workers are few. ³⁸ So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields.”

Matthew 9:35-38

³ Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too.

⁵ You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had.

⁶ Though he was God,
he did not think of equality with God
as something to cling to.

⁷ Instead, he gave up his divine privileges;
he took the humble position of an enslaved person
and was born as a human being.
When he appeared in human form,

⁸ he humbled himself in obedience to God
and died a criminal's death on a cross.

1. Good neighbors move towards others.

2. Good neighbors see the unseen.

⁴⁵ "Who touched me?" Jesus asked.

Everyone denied it, and Peter said, "Master, this whole crowd is pressing up against you."

⁴⁶ But Jesus said, "Someone deliberately touched me, for I felt healing power go out from me." ⁴⁷ When the woman realized that she could not stay hidden, she began to tremble and fell to her knees in front of him. The whole crowd heard her explain why she had touched him and that she had been immediately healed. ⁴⁸ "Daughter," he said to her, "your faith has made you well. Go in peace."

Luke 8:45-48

3. Good neighbors make room for others.

Make room in your schedule.

Make room at your table.

Make room in your heart.

“You can't love someone you don't see. And you can't truly see someone if you never make room for them.”

Discussion Questions:

1. How many of your neighbors do you know by name?
2. Have you ever thought that where you are right now is a specific place God has placed you?
3. With that in mind, do you feel you need to recalibrate how you do life?
4. How would you want your neighbors to describe you?

Actions Steps for the Week

- Bring a treat to a neighbor you do not know and introduce yourself.
- As you drive into your neighborhood, slow down and observe. Is there anything or anyone who God is drawing you to? Do you see someone who may be stressed or hurting, or needing encouragement?