

NEEDED: NEED YOUR NEIGHBOR

Luke 10:25-37 | Sunday Notes

BIG IDEA: We don't need to convince our community that our church is needed. What if we became the kind of neighbors our community needs?

1. HAS MY WORLD GOTTEN SMALLER?

Neighboring costs something: time, attention, vulnerability. But neighboring gives something too: connection, belonging, community.

I remembered what neighboring cost me, but forgot what neighboring gave me.

2. DO WE STILL NEED OUR NEIGHBORS?

We've made life more convenient. We've made relationships more controllable and less demanding. We've made needing our neighbors feel less necessary.

But has that actually made our lives better?

If we want to know what our community needs from its churches, shouldn't we ask our community?

3. WHAT IS A NEIGHBOR?

Neighbor comes from Old English neahgebur: neah (near) + gebur (dweller). In Luke 10, the Greek plesion carries the sense of the person nearby.

"Love the Lord your God..." and "Love your neighbor as yourself." - Luke 10:27

The lawyer asks: "Who is MY neighbor?" - Who qualifies? Where are the boundaries?

Jesus asks: "Who BECAME the neighbor?" - What kind of person will you be?

The Samaritan makes himself near to someone who needs him.

Maybe the question isn't, Do I need my neighbor?

Maybe the question is, Will I become the neighbor they need?

4. WHAT KIND OF NEIGHBORS WILL WE BECOME?

We don't need to be needed. We need to be neighbors.

We can become good neighbors and let our neighbors decide whether our presence matters.

"Which of these three do you think was a neighbor..." ... "The one who had mercy on him." Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise." - Luke 10:36-37

THIS WEEK: KNOW YOUR "NEAR ONE"

1. Know their name First and last name. Who actually lives, works, or spends time near you?	2. Know them Job, family, interests, hometown - things you learn by actually talking.	3. Know their story Hopes, fears, struggles, beliefs, dreams - what grows as trust develops.
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Your step: Who is one person already near you, and what is one intentional step you can take toward knowing them?

My near one: _____

My next step: _____