## The Art of Neighboring

Sermon Notes & Community Group Discussion Sunday, August 24, 2014

**Overcoming Barriers** 

Luke 10:25-37 Matthew 22:37-40

## Our Greatest Barrier to loving our neighbor: Our Lack of love for God.

Our love for others is <u>dependent</u> and <u>intertwined</u> with the 1st commandment to love God.

We must cultivate a Devotional Life:

Heart = <u>emotion</u> Soul = <u>consciousness</u> Strength = <u>drive</u> Mind = <u>intelligence</u> or <u>cognitive abilities</u>

How do we do cultivate a devotional life? What does it look like?

- 1. Build a daily habit of reading the Word of God.
- 2. Pray for/about everything: (What you read, yourself, & others.)

Our love for God <u>empowers us</u> with the strength, focus, and passion to love others.

When we have a rich devotional life – we begin to <u>see as God sees</u>.... therefore we begin to <u>do as God does</u>.

When you began to read the word....you begin to care about the things that <u>God cares about</u>.

When you begin to pray....you begin to care about the things you pray for.

God hears and responds to our prayers!

## **Community Group Questions**

## **Discussion Questions**

1. What is your greatest barrier to being a great neighbor?

2. What does your current devotional life look like? Describe how healthy it is?

3. Why is it so hard to carve out meaningful time for your devotional life? What are the common reasons/themes you hear for not having a flourishing devotional life? What are some reasonable solutions to solve the problem? What root issues need to be addressed?

4. What are you currently asking God to do that only He can do?

5. What neighbors/co-workers (nearest ones) are you praying for right now? Make a list as a group and pray for these people by name.

6. What is the Holy Spirit saying to you?

