

The Art of Neighboring: The Time Barrier

Week 2: October 14, 2018

Reading Plan

Day 1-

READ: [Proverbs 16:9](#)

REFLECT: In the book, The Art of Neighboring, the author says that “The number one obstacle to neighboring is time.” Do you agree, why? How are you seeing it true in your life?

PRACTICE: Watch this song on YouTube: “[Let It Start with Me](#)”

TAKE IT FURTHER!

READ: [Mark 5:1-20](#) or watch and listen to “[Jesus Heals the Demoniac](#)” on YouTube-

REFLECT: In the Art of Neighboring three myths about our hurried lives are described: (1) Things will settle down someday (2) More will be enough (3) Everybody lives like this. Which of these myths have you fallen for?

PRACTICE: Identify at least one of the myths that you have fallen for and confess them to your Savior, Jesus Christ.

Day 2-

READ: [Psalm 90:12](#)

REFLECT: In the Art of Neighboring the author says that It’s vital to take a step back and ask ourselves if we live at a pace that allows us to be available to those who live around us.

PRACTICE: Watch the video “[Love Your Neighbor: Annie’s Story](#)” on YouTube.

TAKE IT FURTHER!

READ: [Luke 10:25-37](#) or watch “[The Parable of the Good Samaritan](#)” from the Jesus Film Project on Bible.com- notice how the Samaritan allowed his life to be interrupted.

REFLECT: Do you currently live at a pace that allows you to be present in your neighborhood?

PRACTICE: Ask the Lord to show you one way you can serve your neighbor this week.

Day 3-

READ: [Ephesians 5:15-17](#)

REFLECT: Brian Mavis said, "In this life, we can do only a few things really well; I think it's a good idea to make certain that one of those things is what Jesus says is most important."

PRACTICE: Tell God the name of one of your neighbors that you want to deepen your relationship with in the next month.

TAKE IT FURTHER!

READ: [Luke 19:1-10](#) or watch "[Zacchaeus the Tax Collector](#)" on YouTube..

REFLECT: Jesus was surrounded by people but he stopped and looked at one man up in a tree. Jesus was open to the leading of his Father to stop and look at one man and make the man part of his life.

PRACTICE: Prepare you mind and heart to be open to notice and be part of your neighbor's life.

Day 4-

READ: [James 4:14](#)

REFLECT: The [Art of Neighboring](#) says, "Jesus got a lot done but he never seemed to be in a hurry. He lived a passionate, purposeful life but was never in a rush". The question for us is how can we live like Jesus? The answer: we must learn how to keep the main thing the main thing"

PRACTICE: On YouTube listen to "[Do Something](#)", a song from Matthew West.

TAKE IT FURTHER!

READ: [Acts 3:1-10](#). Notice while Peter and John stopped in the midst of trying to worship and preach in the Temple, they took notice of a poor lame man that no one else seemed to care about and gave what they had.

REFLECT: John Ortberg coined the phrase "hurry sickness". He said, "Love and hurry are fundamentally incompatible. Love always takes time, and time is the one thing hurried people don't have."

PRACTICE: Watch this inspiring video and read the article from the Huffington Post, "[Love Your Neighbor: the Inspiring Story of Two Friends](#)".

Day 5-

READ: [Proverbs 16:3](#)

REFLECT: Are there some good things in your life that are keeping you from the "main thing"?

PRACTICE: Tell another believer one of the good things you have been doing that you are replacing with “the main thing”?

TAKE IT FURTHER!

READ: [Matthew 6:33](#)

REFLECT: Ultimately we must identify and eliminate the nonessentials. Which of these three principles do you need to approach first?: (1) make the main thing the main thing (2) eliminate time stealers (3) be interruptible

PRACTICE: Commit to one of these principles. Come before God and ask for His Spirit to lead you. Talk it through with a trusted friend or member of your Life Group and ask them to check in with you in a week or two to ask you the hard questions about how you’re doing.