

## Small Group News

Family Night (Menu: BBQ): Week 4 Wed

Baptisms: February 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>

Pray for: New Teaching Series & Baptisms

Small Group Questions  
For the week of February 2nd, 2020

**Love Where You Live** (Part 1)  
**Matthew 22:34-40**

## INTRODUCTION

Throughout the month of February, the teaching series will focus on the Great Commandment. February is often associated with love and we want to focus on Jesus' words in Matthew 22 when He chose "Love God and Love others" as the greatest commandments. Our focus will be on the second commandment to love those around us, right where we live.

The focus of the week: **Love Your Literal Neighbor**

## QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time, or that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

## MY STORY

1. Where did you grow up? What was your neighborhood like? What stood out to you about growing up where you did? Share a favorite memory.
2. Describe your neighborhood you live in now. Share about the culture of where you live as well as your immediate living space (house, apartment, amount of people, etc.). How many neighbors' names do you know? How many know you?

## DIGGING DEEPER

1. Jesus said that to love our neighbor is the 2<sup>nd</sup> most important commandment; let's look at where else this command is repeated:

**Read: Exodus 20:1-17; James 2:8**

How many of the 10 commandments relate to loving God? Why?

How many of the 10 commandments relate to loving others? Why? Why do you think loving God is a prerequisite to loving others? Share about a time in your life when you noticed a change in the way you viewed/treated/cared for others because of loving God?

**Read: Luke 10:25-37**

What were the two questions by the “expert in the law” in Luke’s account of Jesus’ words? What was Jesus’ answer to his question, “who is my neighbor?” What do you learn from Jesus’ story of the Good Samaritan that can help you as you think about your literal neighbors? What excuses do people use to avoid helping or caring for others like the two religious leaders did in the story? So, who is your neighbor anyway?

2. What other principles are consistent in Jesus’ followers regarding neighbors?

**Read: Romans 15:2**

What are some examples of “building up” our neighbors? How can we be pleasing to our neighbors?

**Read: Ephesians 4:25**

What are ways we may be guilty of lying to our neighbors? How are we members one of another (both in the church and our neighborhoods)?

**Read: Leviticus 24:19**

What are some examples of how we injure our neighbors? What have been the consequences of those injuries in our church and in our communities?

**TAKING IT HOME**

Take some time this week and fill out your block map. These could be people on your block, in your complex, or even in your home. Brainstorm some ways you can begin to connect with them more often. Write down your ideas and keep notes to help you remember interactions and look for opportunities.

Spend some time praying and asking God to open up paths of connection with your neighbors. Ask Him to help you build relationships that may lead to sharing the gospel and/or inviting them to church. Ask Him to show you how best to love your neighbors and what needs you may be able to meet.

**GROUP PRAYER**

