

**Taking the Great Commandment Literally**  
**Sermon 1**  
**OUTLINE**

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**Intro**

John 17: Jesus prays for the unity of all believers. When we become one, people who don't know Jesus are drawn towards Him

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**The Development of Neighboring:**

It started with some pastors wanting to dream a little bit and to start answering the question, "How can we link arms as a community of pastors?"

- We can serve our community
- We really don't know our community very well

Let's start asking questions of our community to get to know it better...here are the questions:

1. What is your dream for our city?
2. If you could go and wave a magic wand and change anything about our city what would it be?

The Mayor suggested the smartest thing pastors could do for the city was to start a neighboring movement

- Relationships always trump programs

Government Leaders noted:

- People who have close bonds with their neighbors live longer
- Where people know the names of their neighbors crime is 60% lower
- When natural disasters strike your neighbors are your first responders
- There is no visible difference between Christian and non-Christian neighbors

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**Biblical Text**

Jesus was a genius. He gives the most strategic and greatest commandment that would change the world if believers actually followed it.

Text: Luke 10:25-37

Jesus tells a great story to illustrate neighboring.

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**Application of the text:**

-Learning your neighbor's names is a great first step. It moves you from "Hey man" to "Hey Mike"

-Progression from wave

*to*

hey man

*to*

hey Mike

*to*

Hey Mike how are you doing?

*to*

Hey Mike there is something in my garage can you help me for a quick second?

*to*

Hey Mike I saw that your son moved back in how's that going?

Filling out the block map can help kick off this progression of moving from stranger to acquaintance to having a relationship

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**Closing**

Acts 17:26-27

You have been placed in your neighborhood for a specific reason.

What is God going to do through this group of people through relationships built in your neighborhoods?