

INTENTIONAL: In Loving My Neighbor

Pastor Bill Bowers

October 9, 2016

Week #1: Intentional in Loving God

Next Week: Intentional in My Conversations on Sexuality

Luke 10:25-37

Neighbor comes from the word nigh— to be near, to be close.

If you love somebody, you *will* their good, as God intends them to be good. You actually work toward that being realized in their lives.

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**For Personal Reflection or LifeGroup Questions
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1. Continuing our study into the depth of what "intentional" means to us, we might consider several synonyms Pastor Bill mentioned from last week.
 - Consider your "mindfulness" as it pertains to both your personal discipleship as a person becoming more like Jesus and the way you express this mindfulness in loving your neighbor.
 - How are you "purposeful" in developing your progression in becoming like Jesus? Similarly, how are you deliberately purposeful in loving others (your neighbor)?
 - In what specific ways would you describe how you are attentive to God and attentive to your neighbor?
 - How would you describe spiritual and personal reflection as a discipline of intentionality? How does reflection help you to love God and love others?
 - Can you make a connection from "watchfulness" and "thoughtfulness" to intentional? How would you say these postures of mental and spiritual attitude are connected?
2. If Jesus were to ask you, "Who is your neighbor?" what would you say to Him?
3. Pastor Bill mentioned the teaching Jesus about the "Good Samaritan" as an example of who our neighbor might be, but who is the Good Samaritan to you? Is your Good Samaritan an "undesirable" or even worse, an enemy?
4. Do you think Jesus want us to consider our enemies as neighbors? How do you think Jesus wants us to treat our enemies? Give specific examples for your answers.
5. Who is your enemy? Are your enemies on the other side of the world from you or are your enemies next door to you? Are you enemies inside your workplace or even in your own home?
6. How do you respond to your enemy as a neighbor? How do you love both your enemy and your neighbor in real and practical ways?

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