Home Groups | Week 1 [April 10, 2016]  

Ice Breaker Question:
Share one thing about your neighborhood. On a scale of 1 to 10, how connected is your neighborhood?

Read this week’s scripture: Luke 10:1-11, Mark 12:28-33

Discuss:
1. How did you do on the block map? Did the exercise surprise you one way or the other?
2. In the Mark 12 passage, Jesus talks about loving your neighbor. Do you find it easy or difficult to love your literal neighbor? Why or why not?
3. In the Luke 10 passage, Jesus says to “Go!” Why does Jesus command his disciples to go out? Why is it important to be with others in their homes [Luke 10:5-7]?
4. In the book, The Art of Neighboring, a town's mayor says, “The majority of the issues that our community is facing would be eliminated or drastically reduced if we could just figure out a way to become a community of great neighbors.” To what extent do you think this is true?
5. What distresses you spiritually about the neighborhood in which you live? What specific needs do you see? What do you feel God is calling you to do? (Serendipity Bible, by Zondervan)
6. Luke 10:29 says this about the teacher of the law: “But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, ‘And who is my neighbor?’” In what ways do we try to justify ourselves to avoid taking the Great Commandment literally? In what way are we tempted to generalize neighbors and how does that let us off the hook?
7. What is your earliest recollection of “church?” How has it shaped your understanding of God and of sharing life with others? How has your understanding of church changed?

Prayer:
Keep the following prayer requests from our church family in mind as you close:
> Prayers of healing for John Lindenschmidt, Greg West, Talbott Sumners, and Hadley Lehr.
> Prayers of comfort for David and Anne Norris in the death of Anne’s mother, Mark and Sue Burks in the death of Sue’s mother, Kurt and Lynn Strueh and Scott and Sarah Akin in the death of Kurt and Sarah’s cousin, and Becky and Denny Emery in the death of their grandson.