**Part 1 – Love Your Neighbor**

**Love Brings Them to Jesus**

**Matthew 22:36-40**

 **“Teacher, which is the most important commandment in the law of Moses?”**

**Jesus replied, “‘You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment.**

**A second is equally important: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments.”**

**What does it mean to love your neighbor?**

**Love brings them to Jesus.**

**Mark 2:1-2**

**A few days later, when Jesus again entered Capernaum, the people heard that he had come home. They gathered in such large numbers that there was no room left, not even outside the door…**

**What does it look like when you love your neighbor?**

* **You’re loving your neighbor when you tell them about Jesus.**

**Romans 10:17**

**So faith comes from hearing the Good News, and people hear the Good News when someone tells them about Christ.**

**Mark 2:1-2**

**A few days later, when Jesus again entered Capernaum, the people heard that he had come home. They gathered in such large numbers that there was no room left, not even outside the door and he preached the word to them.**

* **You’re loving your neighbor when you help them encounter the preaching of God’s word.**

**Mark 16:15**

**Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone.**

**1 Corinthians 1:21**

**Since God in his wisdom saw to it that the world would never know him through human wisdom, he has used our foolish preaching to save those who believe.**

**Mark 2:3-4**

**Some men came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus by digging through it and then lowered the mat the man was lying on.**

* **You’re loving your neighbor when you’re not afraid to do the awkward.**

**Awkwardness is temporary, but eternity is forever.**

**John 2:5**

**When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, “Son, your sins are forgiven.”**

**Ephesians 1:7-8**

**In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God’s grace that he lavished on us.**

**Mark 2:6-12**

**Now some teachers of the law were sitting there, thinking to themselves, “Why does this fellow talk like that? He’s blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?”**

**Immediately Jesus knew in his spirit that this was what they were thinking in their hearts, and he said to them, “Why are you thinking these things? Which is easier: to say to this paralyzed man, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Get up, take your mat and walk’?**

**But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins.” So he said to the man, “I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home.” He got up, took his mat and walked out in full view of them all. This amazed everyone and they praised God, saying, “We have never seen anything like this!”**

* **You’re loving your neighbor when you bring them to a place where God gets the glory.**
* **The Final Challenge**

**Pick three people in your circle who either don’t know Jesus or have walked away from God.**

**Write down three names right now.**

**Pray for them daily this week.**

**Take action—text them, call them, invite them.**