

Are You Changing Your Neighborhood Or Is It Changing You?

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I. Introduction

"Life is simple, keeping it that way is the hard part." (John Maxwell)

II. 2 Timothy 4:2 *Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction.*

A. John 3:16 *"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."*

B. God's big idea of love.

1. THE LOVE OF GOD IS UNCONDITIONAL.

2. THE LOVE OF GOD IS SACRIFICIAL.

a. Romans 8:38-39

3. THE LOVE OF GOD IS VALUABLE.

a. God loves you and I so much that He is willing to give beyond what is humanly possible.

4. GOD'S LOVE IS PERSONABLE.

5. GOD'S LOVE IS ACCESSIBLE.

6. GOD'S LOVE IS NONJUDGMENTAL.

a. 2 Peter 3:9

7. GOD'S LOVE IS BENEFICIAL.

III. Unshakable Faith

A. 2 Timothy 4:3-5a ³*For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. ⁴They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. ⁵But you, keep your head in all situations.*

B. Romans 12:2 *Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.*

C. God is saying, "I am everything you are not."

IV. Changing Your Neighborhood Without It Changing You.

A. 2 Timothy 4:5b *Endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.*

B. Four practical ways to stay true to ourselves

1. Let your internal influence filter your outside exposure.

a. Colossians 2:8

2. Be real, not fake.

**a. "When you are already approved you have nothing else to prove."
(Steven Furtick)**

b. Ephesians 2:10

3. Share Jesus, not a gesture.

a. Matthew 28:20

4. Be friendly, not freaky.

a. John 13:34-35

V. Conclusion