

# *The Art of Neighboring* Who Is My Neighbor?

## I. Introduction

- A. Matthew 22:36-38 (NLT) <sup>36</sup>"Teacher, which is the most important commandment in the law of Moses?" <sup>37</sup>Jesus replied, "You must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind." <sup>38</sup>This is the first and greatest commandment."
- B. Deuteronomy 6:4-5 (NLT) <sup>4</sup>"Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD alone. <sup>5</sup>And you must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength."
- C. Matthew 22:39-40 (NLT) <sup>39</sup>"A second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' <sup>40</sup>The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments."
- D. To love somebody is to intend their good, as God defines good.
- E. Matthew 22:39 (NLT) "A second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"
- F. Our "neighbor" is the real - - flesh and blood - - imperfect - - difficult person - - that life brings us into contact with.

## II. Personal Exercise

			your house				
(street)							

- A. We want to begin to pray for our neighbors by name.
- B. God's "Kingdom" is the sphere in which everything God wants to be done - - is done.
- C. I John 4:19 (NAS) *We love, because He first loved us.*

- D. Proverbs 3:27-28 (NLT) <sup>27</sup>*Do not withhold good from those who deserve it when it's in your power to help them.* <sup>28</sup>*If you can help your neighbor now, don't say, "Come back tomorrow, and then I'll help you."*
- E. Proverbs 14:21 (NIV) *He who despises his neighbor sins, but blessed is he who is kind to the needy.*
- F. Leviticus 19:32 (NLT) *"Stand up in the presence of the elderly, and show respect for the aged. Fear your God, I am the LORD."*
- G. John 14:2-3 (NLT) <sup>2</sup>*"There is more than enough room in my Father's home. If this were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you?"* <sup>3</sup>*When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me where I am."*

- 1. Homework assignment: Begin to get to know the names of your neighbors!

### III. Conclusion