



Why are We Here, Where are We Going, and How Do You Fit In? Loving Our Neighbors

Luke 2:10-11 - *But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people; for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord."*

Matthew 2:2 - *"Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we saw His star in the east and have come to worship Him."*

Matthew 4:17 - *From that time Jesus began to preach and say, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."*

Matthew 5:3 - *Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

Matthew 6:10 - *Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.*

John 18:36 - *Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, then My servants would be fighting so that I would not be handed over to the Jews; but as it is, My kingdom is not of this realm."*

Acts 1:6 - *So when they had come together, they were asking Him, saying, "Lord, is it at this time You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?"*

Acts 1:7-8 - *He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority; but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."*

2 Peter 2:1-3 - *But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will also be false teachers among you, who will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing swift destruction upon themselves. Many will follow their sensuality, and because of them the way of the truth will be maligned; and in their greed they will exploit you with false words; their judgment from long ago is not idle, and their destruction is not asleep.*

2 Peter 3:3-4 - *Know this first of all, that in the last days mockers will come with their mocking, following after their own lusts, and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all continues just as it was from the beginning of creation."*

Revelation 19:16 - *And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, "KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS."*

Revelation 20:6 - *Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years.*

3 principles to focus our attention and actions as we seek to faithfully live for the King

I. Rejoice in Your Relationship with Jesus Christ and the Privilege of Serving in the Harvest

Romans 10:9-10 - *that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation.*

A. We are called to minister to men and women who are indifferent and sometimes even hostile to the King.

The mission of Faith Church is to glorify God by winning people to Jesus Christ and equipping them to be more faithful disciples.

B. Frequently God demonstrates His power by using one of us to influence someone to choose to follow the King

C. Whenever God uses one of us, we should always be humbled by His grace

Luke 10:20 - *"Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are recorded in heaven."*

1. The only reason we are not even worse than others is because of God's amazing grace

2. Often God uses people who are not wise and intelligent

Luke 10:21 - *At that very time He rejoiced greatly in the Holy Spirit, and said, "I praise You, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and intelligent and have revealed them to infants. Yes, Father, for this way was well-pleasing in Your sight."*

Luke 10:27 - *And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself."*

II. Learn What it Means to Love Your Neighbors

A. The dilemma

B. The scandal

Luke 10:31-32 - *And by chance a priest was going down on that road, and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. Likewise a Levite also, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side.*

C. The shock

Luke 10:33 - *But a Samaritan, who was on a journey, came upon him; and when he saw him, he felt compassion,*

Luke 10:34-35 - *and came to him and bandaged up his wounds, pouring oil and wine on them; and he put him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn and took care of him. On the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper and said, "Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I return I will repay you."*

1. Implementing our soul care initiatives to achieve deeper friendships within our church family

2. As individual church members, growing in our ability to build stronger relationships with those who live right around us

Jay Pathak and Dave Runyan - "What if Jesus meant that we should love our actual neighbors?"

3. As a church family, developing our "parish mentality" to especially serve those who live near our two ministry campuses

4. Launching our Faith Community Development Corporation to serve urban neighborhoods with excellence
5. Constructing the first phase of our Senior Living Community

III. Remember to Always Keep the Main Thing the Main Thing