



# SUN GROVE CHURCH

## "Love Where You Live" – Week 1

(Matthew 22:35-39, Acts 17:24-27)

### The Greatest

- Loving where you live is one of the most basic and powerful ways to demonstrate the love of Christ.
- The Great Commission - Matthew 28:19
- The Great Commandment - Matthew 22:35

### The Proximity Principle

- Luke 10:29 - "...who is my neighbor?"
- Neighbor = plēsion from the root word meaning "near to."
- We are called to love those in close proximity.
- The word neighbor certainly includes our "actual literal neighbor."
- God has placed us in places and spaces with purpose.
- Consider how loving our neighbors has a "sacred proximity."

### The "Everyone" and "No One" Principle

- I wonder if vaguely making everyone our neighbors we've often made no one our neighbors.
- Acts 17:24-27
- What if God's people caught a vision for the most basic command Jesus gave us and then lived it out.



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## The Principles of Loving Our Neighbors

- 1 John 4:8 - Love is made clear in the person of Jesus Christ.
- Some Christ-followers try to skip the Great Commandment to just get to the Great Commission.
- Some don't want to invest the energy to share kindness, and then are surprised when people, who are still strangers, aren't interested in our message of hope.
- Jesus tells us: *"Love your neighbor as yourself."*
- How much of our activity centers around the care and comfort of ourselves?
- We cannot be fully "on mission" in our day-to-day lives if we simultaneously ignore those nearest us in our lives.
- John 20:21

## The Practicality of Loving Our Neighbors

- **B:** Begin with Prayer
- **L:** Listen
- **E:** Eat (hospitality)
- **S:** Serve
- **S:** Share our Story