

LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR

MSC Core Values

1. *Loving God*

Our primary priority is to teach and lead people to develop a passionate, loving and personal relationship with God, through Jesus Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit based on the truths of the Bible.

2. *Being a Loving Community of Believers*

As a demonstration of our love for God, we purpose to cultivate and demonstrate personal, loving committed relationships with the members of our church family.

3. *Sharing God's Love with Others*

We share the heart of God, that he loves people and has given us the privilege and responsibility to proclaim his message of salvation through Jesus Christ to the people in our community and the world.

GREATEST COMMANDMENTS

- Love the Lord your God and love your neighbor (Mk. 12:28-34).
- Last week we learned about loving God. This week let's look at what it means to love your neighbor as yourself. Sharpen your ax (Ecc. 10:10).

WHY?

- Why should I love my neighbor?
 - Love is the most powerful force in the world (S of S 8:6-7; 1Cor. 12:31; 13:8b, 13).
 - It is what motivated God to sacrifice His Son for our sins.
 - God loves those who hate Him (Mt. 5:43-48; Lk. 6:27-36).
 - It totally and completely confounds, baffles and enrages the devil.
 - ♣ He can kill the person, but he cannot erase their testimony of love (i.e. martyrs).
 - ♣ Even though he incites people to hate God, he cannot incite God to hate people.
 - Love conquers evil and all the spiritual forces of wickedness (Col. 2:14).

LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR

- *Your* neighbor, not just *a* neighbor.
 - God is saying that we should take spiritual ownership. Make it your neighborhood, your apartment complex, your school, your place of work, and your social circles.
 - God has placed you there to love them with His love.
- Who is my neighbor? (Lk. 10:25-37)
 - At the very least, anyone whom God puts in your path of life.
 - Someone who has a need and you can help ... friend or enemy.
 - ♣ This can be a practical need, an emotional need, a physical need or a spiritual need. Each one is an opportunity to show the power of God's love.
- Begin to take ownership of where God has placed you. Then ask the Holy Spirit to bring people to you and show who to reach out to.