THE TIME BARRIER

THE ART OF NEIGHBORING, PART 2

Pastor Ken Ritz * February 25, 2018 * New Life Vineyard

The Great Commandment

'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, '<u>Love your neighbor as yourself</u>.'

Luke 10:27

- The Question: how am I going to have time for one more relationship, let alone 8 relationships with my closest neighbors?
- Time is the biggest obstacle we need to overcome to be effective neighbors.

Are we living at a _____ that allows us to be available to those around us?

Myths we believe:

1. Someday things will settle down
2. More will be enough
3. Everybody lives like this

As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said. But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!"

"Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."

Luke 10:38-42

- Mary is sitting at the feet of Jesus; culturally this is not the norm.
    - Martha is doing what is culturally appropriate by being in the kitchen and serving Jesus.
    - Mary is going against the culture and focusing on the main thing.
- Sometimes we need to go against cultural norms by creating space for relationships with our neighbors.

- "The art of elimination"

What is God calling you to _____ _____, so you can make room for the main thing?

Questions to Ask Yourself This Week:

- God what is your heart for me?
- What is that next step you desire me to take?
- What is the main thing you want me to focus on

**All scriptures from NIV unless otherwise noted*