Why We Love & Serve Our City
Labor for Your Neighbor *4


Introduction – As individuals, it is easy for us to look at an impersonal mass of people we don’t know and be critical of their decisions, lifestyle, behaviors, etc. But the moment they have names and we get to know them, everything changes. To God, everyone has a name (Isaiah 49:16)

I. The Attitude & Compassion of God

A. God loves cities of all sizes. There are thousands of people who do not spiritually know their right hand from their left hand. (Jonah 4:1-11)

B. God demonstrates His compassion on crowds of people during the ministry days of Jesus. (Matthew 9:36)

C. When we as Christians feel like we are in “exile” in an “ungodly city” and we are surrounded by people who do not fear God or follow God, God has given believers within “His church” clear instruction about the way we are to relate to the city He has placed us in. (Jeremiah 29:4-7)

II. The Example of Jesus

A. Jesus summarized God’s law in 2 Old Testament statements
   a. Love God with all your heart (Deuteronomy 6:5)
   b. Love your neighbor as yourself (Leviticus 19:18)

B. He modeled how to love and how to serve in His teaching
   b. “love God and love your neighbor” (Luke 10:27)
   c. “…and who is my neighbor?” (Luke 10:29)
   d. “a Samaritan took pity on him…” (Luke 10:33)
   e. “…the one who had mercy on him” (Luke 10:37)
   f. “…go and do likewise” (Luke 10:37)