



- As the city grows, so does our **prejudice**.
- We can't have a heart for the city if we are **disconnected** from the **people** of the city.

41 ... Jesus saw the city ahead, he began to weep. Luke 19:41 (NLT)

25 ... "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Luke 10:25 (NIV)

27 He answered, "'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, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" Luke 10:27 (NIV)

29 But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Luke 10:29 (NIV)

Jesus' story teaches us that...

- **Everyone** is our neighbor.
- Our response is simply to **love**.

30 Jesus replied with a story: "A Jewish man was traveling on a trip from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he was attacked by bandits. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him up, and left him half dead beside the road. 31 "By chance a priest came along. But when he saw the man lying there, he crossed to the other side of the road and passed him by. 32 A Temple assistant walked over and looked at him lying there, but he also passed by on the other side. Luke 10:30-32 (NLT)

33 "Then a despised Samaritan came along, and when he saw the man, he felt compassion for him. 34 Going over to him, the Samaritan soothed his wounds with olive oil and wine and bandaged them. Then he put the man on his own donkey and took him to an inn, where he took care of him. Luke 10:33-34 (NLT)

- We can't allow our **fears** to excuse our **hate**.
- Racism is not born, it is **taught**.
- Racism is not a **skin** issue, racism is a **sin** issue.

9 But if you favor some people over others, you are committing a sin. You are guilty of breaking the law. James 2:9 (NLT)

How to have a heart for the city:

- Recognize any **prejudices**.
 - Prejudice: (prejudging) preconceived opinion that is not based on reason or actual experience.

- We should have no **attitude** that prevents **love**.

14 "You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. 15 No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. 16 In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father. Matthew 5:14-16 (NLT)

- Our natural tendency is to curse the **darkness** rather than address the lack of **light**.

9 After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. 10 And they cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb." Revelation 7:9-10 (NIV)

- Seek to **understand** others.

2 Fools have no interest in understanding; they only want to air their own opinions. Proverbs 18:2 (NLT)

- Address our **fears**.

18 There is no fear in love; perfect love drives out all fear...1 John 4:18 (TEV)

- Have an expression of **love**.

33 "When a foreigner lives with you in your land, don't take advantage of him.

34 Treat the foreigner the same as a native. Love him like one of your own. Remember that you were once foreigners in Egypt. Leviticus 19:33-34 (MSG)

18 He ensures that orphans and widows receive justice. He shows love to the foreigners living among you and gives them food and clothing.

19 So you, too, must show love to foreigners, for you yourselves were once foreigners in the land of Egypt. Deuteronomy 10:18-19 (NLT)

12 "Do for others what you want them to do for you. This is the teaching of the laws of Moses in a nutshell. Matthew 7:12 (TLB)

Have Questions? Text them to: (559)-464-5754

Questions that can be used in Connection Groups:

These questions also work well for personal time with God.

- What's one point from the Talk that really stood out to you? Is there a scripture from Sunday that stands out to you? Why?
- According to the definition on the notes, do you feel that you are prejudice? Explain.
- Do you feel that your heart is connected to the people of the city of Fresno? In what way, and how deeply connected are you?
- Is it difficult for you to accept that Jesus says EVERYONE is your neighbor (even your enemies)?
- Do you believe that racism is a problem in our city? How can the church be at the forefront of change?
- Are there any groups of people that you have any prejudice towards? What are your fears that cause prejudice?
- Do you find that it is easier to curse the darkness around you rather than address the lack of light within you?
- How do we seek to understand others better?
- How can we address our fears about others?
- What are some expressions of love we can have to remove and eliminate prejudice?

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