

Andy Deane • 5/16/21
Love Where You Live: Your City

#1 God wants us to LOVE our city:

Luke 19:41-44, 41 As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it 42 and said, "If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace—but now it is hidden from your eyes. 43 The days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment against you and encircle you and hem you in on every side. 44 They will dash you to the ground, you and the children within your walls. They will not leave one stone on another, because you did not recognize the time of God's coming to you."

A) Why love? Their problem is greater than ours!

- Notice why Jesus was emotional. It was not His fate on the cross, but the fate of the city that he was concerned about.
- Your life has a purpose beyond your pain.

B) How love? By helping them find true peace in God.

- Unbelievers are described in the Bible as blind/lost, so your city isn't aware of what can truly help them.
- Never lose sight that the ultimate good every city needs, more than it needs material prosperity, is knowing Jesus.

#2 God wants us to IDENTIFY with our city:

Jeremiah 29:4-7, 4 This is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says to all those I carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: 5 "Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce. 6 Marry and have sons and daughters; find wives for your sons and give your daughters in marriage, so that they too may have sons and daughters. Increase in number there; do not decrease. 7 Also, seek the peace and

prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper."

A) Why identify? Your blessing is tied to theirs!

- Helping our community helps us in practical ways too!
- There are also heavenly rewards for earthly service.
- *Matthew 6:20-21, 20 Store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*

B) How identify? Weave your life into the life of the city.

- He said to Build houses, settle down, eat, marry, have kids, seek its peace & prosperity, & pray for it.
- We serve our city best by getting our values from "a city that is to come", not them (*Hebrews 13:14*).

#3 God wants us to REACH our city:

Matthew 5:14-16, 14 "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

A) Why reach? It's simply being who we already are!

- Being an authentic Christian means being a light (a Christian witness) for God where you live.

B) How reach? Doing good deeds with gospel purpose.

- Let's do so much good in our cities that the locals will want to meet our King.

Cornerstone's new Community Mission's strategy:

We're going to host 4 outreach/service events in 5 surrounding cities every year, along with providing opportunities to serve a non-profit in each of these towns.

Visit your town's Community Mission's hub to join your town's email newsletter, Instagram, & Facebook group:

- www.Wildomar.church
- www.LakeElsinore.church
- www.Murrieta.church
- www.CanyonLake.church
- www.Menifee.church

If your city is not listed above please connect and serve with the next closest town until we are able to launch a hub in your city. We'll talk more about this next week.