

THE Big 3

EPISODE: 163

TITLE: Can You Really Love Your Neighbor As You Love Yourself?

We live in an age when it feels like we have very little time for new and trusting relationships—and it's hard to trust people! So we tend to isolate or stick closer to home and keep to ourselves. But people are dying for real relationship, and isolation only breeds further distrust.

Here are three key things to believe and consider about loving others as you love yourself...

1. **People are dying for relationship and connection.** We can *choose* to push back against consumerism and individualism that is so toxic. Let's not let our affluence buy the very walls that keep us apart from real gospel centered relationship. Try to look at your possessions and blessings that God has given you all as tools and resources to bless others with and build relationship.
2. **The Word (Jesus) was made flesh and moved into the neighborhood...** That's like saying, "the opinion of God, the promises of God, has moved into the neighborhood." Wow! Now, as *HIS* family in your neighborhood, this is your privilege and opportunity to show everyone the love and generosity that the Father has shown you. Don't let the fear of rejection isolate you. Remember, you are perfectly loved by the Creator God who made you in his image. Trust him to lead you to build trust with others.
3. **Change the narrative in the neighborhood.** Get to know people's names! Get to know their story and what they love and value or fear. Start hosting a happy hour or "corn bread Wednesday". Do what works in *your* neighborhood. Don't forget how awesome it is to theme your get togethers... people love that, and it's easier to invite folks to. The sooner you start these types of invites and get-togethers in your neighborhood, the easier it is. And doing them as a predictable pattern—not a once off event—will build real traction. Have fun!!!

In light of today's topics, you might find these posts and videos helpful:

- [7 Ways to Be a More Generous Person](#)
- [How to Share Your Faith in a Non-Creepy Way](#)

Thanks for listening... we'll see you in the next episode!
Caesar & Heath

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