

How to Biblically Love Our Neighbors
Proverbs 3:27-35

The first and greatest commandment is to love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and all your mind. The second is to love your neighbor as yourself. (Matt 22:37-39)

Who is my neighbor? (Luke 10:25-37). A neighbor is anyone who God brings into our path, or anyone that we can share the love and truth of God with.

- We can only fulfill the second commandment when we are properly fulfilling the first. “*We love because **He** first loved us.*” - 1 John 4:19
- If you aren’t loving God, then you aren’t loving neighbor, and if you aren’t loving neighbor, you aren’t loving God.

Vs. 27-28

“**Do not** withhold **good**”....”**Do not** say go and come back when it is there with you.”

- The obvious implication: pay your debts
- The deeper call: do not withhold *any* good when you have the ability to give it. (Titus 3:1, 2 Timothy 2:21, 3:16-17)
- The Christian worldview should be to *look for opportunities to do good*. (Ephesians 2:10)

God is our perfect example of this: **Psalm 119:68** “You are good and do good, teach me your statutes.” When we give, the goal is to do it out of love, not obligation.

Wisdom helps us to see our time is limited and we should do good to our neighbor while we still have the opportunity (Psalm 90:12, 139:16, James 4:17)

Vs. 29-31

The command to do good is followed by the command to abstain from evil. We see a generational example of this with Saul and David.

- Saul attempts to take David’s life even though he is supposed to be dwelling securely with him. (1 Samuel 19:4-5, 8-10)
- David takes Uriah’s life who is supposed to be dwelling securely under his protection. (2 Samuel 11:14-15, 27)

We ought not to envy a man of violence or the wicked and their ways! **Psalm 37:1-12**

Vs. 32-35

Devious: “to depart or turn aside. To go wrong or crooked.” **Upright:** “Straight or level”

Wicked: “Guilt or criminal, deserving of judgement” **Righteous:** “To act lawfully or just”

Scorner: “Arrogant, proud or boastful” **Humble:** “Lowly in heart”

Fools: “Those who refuse discipline and instruction” **Wise:** “Those who follow God’s law”.

Announcements:

★**MEN'S BREAKFAST:** Men, the Monthly Men's Breakfast is THIS Saturday, November 22nd, at 7am, at the Big Apple Café — Log Pond location. If you plan on attending, please let Pastor Zach know (740)618-0739.

★***WE WILL NOT BE HAVING A WORSHIP SERVICE NEXT THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27TH—THANKSGIVING DAY!***

★**CHRISTMAS DECORATING:** Join us on Sunday, November 30th, immediately following the worship service, to decorate the church for Christmas. We would love for everyone to stay to help us with this, as many hands make light work! We will be buying pizza for lunch for anyone who is volunteering to help us decorate. If you are planning on staying to help decorate, please let Kathleen know so that we are sure to get enough pizza for everyone!

★*For all other announcements, please see the November Newsletter!*