

**Crossroads Daily Guide  
Week of July 31, 2016  
Love Your Neighbor - Serve**



***You must love the Lord with all of your heart, all your soul, all your strength, and all your mind. And, Love your neighbor as yourself.***

**Luke 10:27**

This week's Daily Guide will focus on how we can be better neighbors. The reflections for each day were taken from the Church of the Saviour's Daily Reflections. The Church of the Saviour is comprised of a network of small community churches throughout Washington, DC. The Church of the Saviour tries to cross boundaries and break down walls of separation in neighborhoods throughout the city. They help churches become better neighbors in the communities they serve. The reflections can be found each day on the website <http://inwardoutward.org/>

**Sunday, July 31, 2016**

*Luke 10:27: You must love the Lord with all of your heart, all your soul, all your strength, and all your mind. And, Love your neighbor as yourself.*

**Simply Present** - Sometimes we are astonished when we learn that although we did not actually "do" anything for a certain individual, our simply being present or showing up allowed something to shift in his or her inner landscape that made space for deeper healing. Sometimes we discover that in simply being present to another's pain we experience the Divine in them that awakens the Divine in ourselves. (K. Killian Noe – Source: *Decent into Love: How Recovery Caf  come to Be*)

**Reflection:** Can you think of a time in your life when you were unable to actually "do" something for a friend or family member? Did you feel helpless or was just being with that person enough for you? What was the reaction of the person you were with?

**Monday, August 1, 2016**

*Luke 10:27: You must love the Lord with all of your heart, all your soul, all your strength, and all your mind. And, Love your neighbor as yourself.*

**People You Do Not Know** - Community, I am beginning to understand, is made through a skill I have never learned or valued: the ability to pass time with people you do not and will not know well, talking about nothing in particular, with no end in mind, just to build trust, just to be sure of each other, just to be neighborly. A community is not something that you have, like a camcorder or a breakfast nook. No, it is something you do. And you have to do it all the time. (Source: Wendall Berry)

**Reflection:** When is the last time you were intentional about having a conversation with a friend or casual acquaintance without an agenda? Take time this week to just sit and talk with someone.

**Tuesday, August 2, 2016**

*Luke 10:27: You must love the Lord with all of your heart, all your soul, all your strength, and all your mind. And, Love your neighbor as yourself.*

**A “Go” Community** - Getting people to come is important because you can't have community without people, but getting people to come is not the end goal. We want to create a community that invites people to come experience being deeply known and loved, and an experience so compelling that they become eager to go—to go free the prisoner, feed the hungry, comfort the grieving, love the addicted and mentally anguished, house the homeless and “stand in and close the gap” between those who have what they need to fulfill their God-given potential and those who do not. (K. Killian Noe – Source: *Decent into Love: How Recovery Café Come to Be*)

**Reflection:** Is there anything you are truly passionate about? Do you feel compelled to join a cause or a movement? If so, is there something more you should be doing? If not, what steps do you need to take in your life to help connect you with your passion?

### **Wednesday, August 3, 2016**

*Luke 10:27: You must love the Lord with all of your heart, all your soul, all your strength, and all your mind. And, Love your neighbor as yourself.*

**We Belong** - Most of us struggle with simply being present. Some of us “check out” because we have not confronted our own pain and therefore cannot be present to the pain or demands of others. Others of us are so conditioned to think it is what we do and accomplish that counts that we've never developed a practice of simply being present... We are all both addicts and healers, both recipients and contributors, both those who welcome others into our community of belonging and those needing to be reminded daily that we ourselves are welcome. We all need to know we belong. (K. Killian Noe – Source: *Decent into Love: How Recovery Café Come to Be*)

**Reflection:** Where do you belong? Are there any groups or community of belonging that make you feel welcome? Is there anyone you can think of that may need to feel like they belong as well?

### **Thursday, August 4, 2016**

*Luke 10:27: You must love the Lord with all of your heart, all your soul, all your strength, and all your mind. And, Love your neighbor as yourself.*

**What we Ought to Be** - I can never be what I ought to be until you are what you ought to be. You can never be what you ought to be until I am what I ought to be. This is the way the world is made. I didn't make it that way, but this is the interrelated structure of reality. (Martin Luther King Jr. – Source: *A Testament of Hope*)

**Reflection:** Are you who you ought to be? Is the world how it ought to be? How can we all take steps toward making this how they should be together?

### **Friday, August 5, 2016**

*Luke 10:27: You must love the Lord with all of your heart, all your soul, all your strength, and all your mind. And, Love your neighbor as yourself.*

**Love All of It** - Love all God's creation, the whole and every grain of sand in it. Love every leaf, every ray of God's light. Love the animals, love the plants, love everything. If you love everything, you will perceive the divine mystery in things. Once you perceive it, you will begin to comprehend it better every day. And you will come at last to love the whole world with an all-embracing love. [(Father Zosima) Fyodor Dostoevsky – Source: *The Brothers Karamazov*]

**Reflection:** Take time to be in nature today. When you have a better appreciation for nature and how fragile it is, does it make you want to take care of it more? Do you feel responsible in some way for its wellbeing? What steps can you take to be a better caretaker of nature?

### **Saturday, August 6, 2016**

*Luke 10:27: You must love the Lord with all of your heart, all your soul, all your strength, and all your mind. And, Love your neighbor as yourself.*

**Welcome Something New** - To offer hospitality to a stranger is to welcome something new, unfamiliar and unknown into our life-world... Strangers have stories to tell which we have never heard before, stories which can redirect our seeing and stimulate our imaginations. The stories invite us to view the world from a novel perspective. (Thomas Ogletree –Source: *Hospitality to the Stranger*)

**Reflection:** How can you offer hospitality to a stranger in some small way? Perhaps offering smile or a simple hello to a stranger could open up window to seeing someone in a new way. How might you be perceived by doing a simple act of welcome?