Notes

May 14 2017

Dave Teixeira
Cedar Mill Bible Church

Art of Neighboring – No "Them" in Neighboring
Ruth 1-4

Group Discussion Questions

Read Ruth 1-4

At the beginning of this story we learn that Elimelek values personal comfort and security over trusting God. How do your core values impact the way you neighbor?

Early in this story we learn that Ruth is so devoted to Naomi that she steps out of her comfort zone in order to love her. What would it look like for you to step out of your comfort zone to love your neighbors? What would it look like to embrace risk or fear in order to neighbor well?

When Ruth gets to Israel she is an outsider. She is called "Ruth the Moabite." Is there someone in your neighborhood who isn't like everyone else? Who is different in some way and possibly isolated or not included?

According to the Bible, generosity is an essential quality for good neighboring. Have you ever experienced this in your neighborhood? How could you demonstrate generosity to your neighbors in a practical way?

Hope is perhaps the most powerful thing people need that we can offer. What does it look like to be a person of hope in your neighborhood?

It is often part of human nature to form groups of "them" and "us." Who is the "us" in your world? Who are people you are tempted to think of as "them"? In what ways are you tempted to think about your neighbors as "them"?

What else from this message challenged you? How are you doing at engaging your neighbors? What is the next step for you as you seek to neighbor in a way that shows and shares the Gospel?