

**"The 5:14 Journey"**  
*Take the Next Step*  
Week 3: "Love Welcomes"

# TALKINGPOINTS WALKINGPOINTS



A publication of **DISCIPLE**, the adult discipleship ministry of Triangle Community Church.

**Talk** together about the glory of God's kingdom. —Psalm 145:11  
Love the Lord your God and **walk** in all his ways. —Joshua 22:5

## Questions for Reflection

- Welcoming *equals* hospitality—the warm, friendly, generous reception and treatment of others. Describe a time when you were the **recipient** of hospitality. What was your situation, your need? Who welcomed you in—and how? What was the long-term impact on you of receiving hospitality?
- In two columns, list the positive ("do this") and negative ("don't do that") commands in Romans 12:9-13. Discuss the specifics of each command (for example, why are we to "*rejoice in hope*"?).

Some of them make perfect sense—such as "non-hypocritical love" is clearly related to hospitality. But others may be harder to connect—such as "persevering in tribulation and devotion to prayer" and showing hospitality. Which commands make perfect sense to you? Which ones surprise you?

Which of those commands come most easily or naturally to you? Why those ones?

Which of those commands are most challenging to you? Why are they particularly difficult for you?

- Read 1 Peter 4:7-11. What do you think it means that "the end of all things is near" (v. 7a)?

Because Christ is returning soon, we're to do two things (v. 7b). What are they?

What are we to **do** "*above all else*" (v. 8a)—and **why** (v. 8b)?

Do you complain when you show hospitality to others (v. 9)? How do the trusts of v. 7-8 help?

**Why** are spiritual gifts brought up in this context (v. 10-11)?

Is your spiritual gifting in the area of speaking or serving?

## Application-Challenge

- Invite a "neighbor" to have coffee with you or to a July 4<sup>th</sup> cook-out.
- Invite them to be your guest at the "Food Truck Rodeo" in two weeks (Sunday, July 15 @ 6pm).
- Use your home (boat, pool, gear, etc.) in some way to show hospitality to a neighbor.
- Help show hospitality to international student leaders (At: [tcc.org](http://tcc.org), keyword: **Romans**).

**Take One Step:** "*Yes~ I'm in! This week I'll 'welcome' a neighbor in some way.*"

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

# Strategy Summary

## ***"The 5:14 Journey—Take the Next Step"***

Galatians 5:14 teaches us that: *"The whole law can be summed up in this one command: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"*

**What is "The 5:14 Journey"?** Christians are called to love our neighbors. Our vision is to constantly and continually build redemptive relationships with our neighbors. A "neighbor" is anyone we're around where we live or work, at the gym or pool, the parents of our children's friends and teammates; cashiers at stores we frequent, the mailman, trashman, or FedEx deliveryman—***literally anyone*** with whom we regularly come in contact.

For many of us, knowing how to love our neighbor doesn't come naturally; we need help learning how. We also need encouragement, and it's very motivational when there's a ground-swell of many people taking similar faith-steps together. So this summer we're devoting four weeks to try as a church to take the next step—whatever that may be—to "love our neighbor". We believe that God will be glorified and we will be encouraged as together we focus on loving our neighbors.

**How will we do this?** Each week the sermon will focus on an element of love: love speaks, love prays, love welcomes, love serves, and love witnesses. Each of these elements will be illustrated with real-life stories from our TCC family. Then, each of us will return to our neighborhoods with an assignment which is within our reach—yet which will stretch our faith. Our assignments will focus on building relationships. They will not be random or anonymous acts, but person-to-person connections. Already feeling stretched?! Not to worry—the 5:14 Journey is just four weeks long. We can do this!

**What will be the result?** Well, for starters, our neighbors will be loved! And God will be glorified. And us?—we'll experience joy. Philippians 2:2 teaches that our joy becomes "complete" when we are "intent on one purpose". So, expect increased faith, boldness, and others-centeredness. In some cases, the ***ultimate*** act of love—evangelism—will no doubt also take place.

**Ready?** Since "love welcomes", this week as you take your walk in the "neighborhood" pray silently for an opportunity to extend a welcome to a neighbor. If you see anyone you already know, stop, chat, and invite them to have coffee with you. If you meet someone new—learn their name, chat a bit, and if possible, invite them to have coffee with you. ***Love welcomes—it's that simple!***

### ***Talking To God About This Week's Message***

*"Heavenly Father, today I want to be a 'doer' of the Word, and not just a 'hearer'. Amen."*

### ***Talking To Others About This Week's Message***

If a neighbor or friend at work asked you, *"What kind of stuff do they talk about at your church?"*, how would you summarize the most important elements of this week's sermon and the key lessons you intend to apply to your life? Can you explain it in ***plain language*** anyone could understand?

## Digging Deeper in Your Daily Quiet Time

"Five Question Bible Study" (see page to the left) is a simple way to study any passage. We can use it to explore the ways that "love welcomes"...

**Monday**— Romans 12:9-13

**Tuesday**— Hebrews 13:1-3

**Wednesday**— 1 Peter 4:7-10

**Thursday**— Matthew 25:31-40

**Friday**— Matthew 25:41-46

**Saturday**— ***In preparation for worshipping your risen Lord tomorrow with your church family,*** study Philippians 2:3-8.

Need blank copies for doing more

"Five Question Bible Study"?

e-mail: Dan.Clement.TCC@gmail.com

Bible Text: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



What idea particularly strikes me from this text? [Note in which verse(s) is it found.]



What question

is text answer it?



What about

relates to this text?



What action must I take as a result of this text? Be concrete and specific.



With whom will I share what I learned from this text?

