### "The 5:14 Journey" Take the Next Step Week 1: "Love Speaks"



# TALKINGPOINTS WALKINGPOINTS

A publication of , 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**

When was a time that you felt "new to the group"—a student in a new school, the recent hire at work, suddenly in a strange city, etc.—and someone spoke to you, and drew you in? Tell us about it. *How* did they break the ice?

What were you feeling *before* someone initiated with you? What do you think *they* were feeling?

When "love speaks", good things happen! Read Proverbs 15:30.
 Tell us about a time when you were the *recipient* of someone's "cheerful look" and "good news".

Isaiah 52:7-8 speaks of the blessing and joy the *bearer* of the good news experiences. Tell about a time when you had "beautiful feet"! What was your news and how did it impact you?

Notice again in Isaiah 52:7-8 that the *ultimate* good news is that God is ready and willing to save.
 When did you first hear *that* good news? Tell us about it:

Who/what brought you that message? What process did they use in explaining/delivering it?

The good news of salvation also includes the *bad* news regarding our sin-problem! Did you initially recognize the gospel (which literally means "good news") as *good* news, or did the issue of sin "trip you up" in any way? If so, how did that problem get resolved?

With whom in your "neighborhood" will you take the first step of bringing the good news?

## Application-Challenge

"Love speaks"—it's that simple!

- Each day speak to a "neighbor". Try to turn it into a conversation.
- If you already are doing these things, decide what is your "*next step*"—and take it!
- Tell us your stories—and hear from others—using #TCC514.

Take One Step: "Yes—I'm in! This week I'll speak to a 'neighbor' every day."

Signature:

# **Sermon 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 UPS 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 speaks", this week take a walk in your "neighborhood" and greet someone. Remember: a "neighbor" is anyone where you live or work, at the gym or pool, the parents of your children's friends and teammates; cashiers at stores you frequent, your mailman, trashman, UPS deliveryman literally anyone within any one of your circles. Feel free to partner up with another TCCer who lives near you (or has a logical connection to the "neighborhood"). Greet someone. Learn their name. When you get home, don't forget to jot down your neighbor's name and what you learned about them.

## Love speaks—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 below) is a simple way to study any passage. We can use it to explore the ways that "love speaks"...

What question What about	<ul> <li>The 5:14 Journey"</li> <li>Sunday, Sume 17, "Love Speaks"</li> <li>Sunday, Sume 24, "Love Prays"</li> <li>Sunday, Suly 1, "Love Welcomes"</li> <li>Sunday, Suly 8, "Love Serves"</li> <li>Sunday, Suly 15, "Love Witnesses"</li> <li>Food Truck Rodeo! 6 pm</li> </ul>	s text answer it? relates to this text?
What action	must I take as a result of this text? Be concrete and	l specific.