

# Discussion Guide: What Matters Most

**Scripture Focus:** John 13:34-35; Mark 12:30-31

## 1. The "Tush Push" Perspective

In the message, we heard about Davis and his friends feeling comfortable enough to perform a full football celebration in the foyer.

**Reflect:** Think about your own home. Who are the people (outside of your immediate family) who feel "at home" in your space?

- **Discuss:** Why is it often easier to keep people at arm's length rather than inviting them into our "messy" everyday lives?

## 2. Moving from "If I Have Time" to "Commandment."

The message challenged us to stop viewing neighboring as an "add-on" to our busy schedules and start viewing it as a core commandment.

- **The Challenge:** Our modern world (cars, garage doors, fast-paced tech) is designed for privacy and speed.
- **Question:** What is one specific "speed bump" you can put in your life this week to slow down and notice the people living right next to you?

## 3. Being "For" Something

*"I am afraid as Christians right now we are known for what we are against, not for what we are for."*

- **Reflect:** If your neighbors were asked to describe your household/faith, would they list things you avoid, or would they talk about the love you show?
- **Discuss:** How does having a personal relationship with someone (like Jarad's friend in the message) change how they perceive the Church as a whole?

## 4. Two Hard Truths

We discussed that neighboring is difficult because:

1. **Life is Hard:** Everyone is going through a "disoriented" season.
  2. **People are Messy:** Loving people through their mess—not just despite it—is where true ministry happens.
- **Question:** Who in your life is currently in a "messy" season? How can you love them *through* it this week without trying to "fix" them?

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**Practical Application: The Neighboring Grid**

Don't let this be just a "good idea." Let's get practical. Think of the house to your left, the house to your right, or the apartment across the hall. Can you answer these four questions for them?

| <b>The Goal</b>               | <b>The Neighbor's Details</b> |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>What are their Names?</b>  |                               |
| <b>What is their History?</b> |                               |
| <b>What are their Hopes?</b>  |                               |
| <b>What are their Hurts?</b>  |                               |

**Goal for this week:** If you don't know their names, make it a point to find out (even if it's a bit awkward because you've lived there for three years!).

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### **Closing Prayer**

*Lord, thank You for the snow that forces us to slow down. Help us to see our neighbors through Your eyes. Give us the courage to be the "best church for the community" by starting with the person living right next door. May 2026 be the year we are known truly by our love. Amen.*