



GOOD NEIGHBORS—PART 7 EMBRACE MESSY

YOU ARE MESSY AND DEARLY LOVED

ROMANS 5:6-8

You see, at just the right time, **when we were still powerless**, Christ died for the ungodly.

⁷ Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. ⁸ **But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.**

“The gospel is this:

We are more sinful and flawed in ourselves than we ever dared believe, yet at the very same time we are more loved and accepted in Jesus Christ than we ever dared hope.”

-Tim Keller

FOLLOW JESUS INTO THE MESS

MATTHEW 9:35-38

Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and **healing every disease and sickness.** ³⁶ **When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.** ³⁷ Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. ³⁸ Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.”

MATTHEW 10:1, 5-8

Jesus called his twelve disciples to him and **gave them authority** to drive out impure spirits and to heal every disease and sickness.

⁵ **These twelve Jesus sent out** with the following instructions: “Do not go among the Gentiles or enter any town of the Samaritans. ⁶ Go rather to the lost sheep of Israel. ⁷ **As you go, proclaim this message: ‘The kingdom of heaven has come near.’** ⁸ **Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received; freely give.**

What is holding me back from being a Good Neighbor in the way Jesus is calling me to be?

**Is there some
reluctance**

or unwillingness

or selfishness

**that I need to confess and repent of so that I can show love
more freely and consistently?**

FAITH COMES ALIVE THROUGH ACTION

JOHN 13:3-5

Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; ⁴ **so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist.** ⁵ **After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples’ feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.**

The church is most reflective of Jesus when we are getting our hands dirty.