

**Gospel Lighthouse Church**  
**Sunday Morning Worship**  
**10/12/24**  
**“Community Outreach 1”**

**Text: Mark 16:15 and 20.**

**Introduction:**

Matthew and Luke give more details about Jesus' last days on earth. Mark summarizes them in a few short sentences. This message's focus is briefly summarized. The Lord doesn't want any one left behind; expressed in the Community outreach letter, point #7. Commit to enhancing and practicing “no neighbor left behind.”

- All the world v15—every creature= no person is to be shut out= no neighbor left behind.
- They went, Jesus working with them—Jesus helped/assisted in the work. There is a perseverance and presence in the recorded action' “They went” (with perseverance) and the Lord worked with them, validating the message—v20.

The reaching out to others came first and then the **signs** following. Signs are meant to follow believers, instead of believers following after signs.

We have done things in the past, however, it's time to commit to a strategy and **persevere** relative to our neighborhood. Jesus emphasized the necessity and benefits of perseverance related to prayer.

“Suppose you went to a friend's house at midnight, wanting to borrow three loaves of bread. You say to him, <sup>6</sup>‘A friend of mine has just arrived for a visit, and I have nothing for him to eat.’ <sup>7</sup>And suppose he calls out from his bedroom, ‘Don't bother me. The door is locked for the night, and my family and I are all in bed. I can't help you.’ <sup>8</sup>But I tell you this—though he won't do it for friendship's sake, if you keep knocking long enough, he will get up and give you whatever you need because of your shameless persistence. <sup>9</sup>“And so I tell you, keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you. <sup>10</sup>For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.” (Luke 11:5-10, New Living Translation, underline added)

The scripture context was prayer, but the application is all-encompassing, and certainly pertaining to the goal for our neighborhood. Persevering, keeping our foot on the *gas pedal* is key. Brief points:

1. Come together.
2. Collectively pray.
3. Concentrate (focus together on the common purpose).
4. Center on the creative strategies birthed as our hearts are knitted to a common goal of restoration. (I believe the people at GLC are very creative and can add to, like a “The Jethro ministry”).
  - Jethro – Excellency, his abundance, advantage, and profit; it connotes the concept of **addition** - Strong's #3503.
5. Explore things the city has target for neighborhoods/communities and collaborate.
6. Commit to surveying and responding to realistic needs.
7. Commit to enhancing and practicing “no neighbor left behind.”

**Conclusion:**

This is consistent with GLC's vision of restoration, part of this year's theme “Triunity” including *realignment and reorganization for effective impact*. We are going to pray, plan, adopt strategies and persevere in outreach. I am convinced God will help us be creative and committed.

JDF

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