

## **Who Is Your Neighbor?**

We live in a world where we guard ourselves from people. We keep our blinds drawn, lock our doors and in the off chance we hear an unexpected knock, we are reluctant to answer. In days past, the front door was always open and neighbors were invited in to share a meal. My husband is always waving at cars that we pass on the way to our home. I will ask, "who is that?" His response, "our neighbor". This brings to mind the question, "who is our neighbor?" Jesus was asked by a lawyer, "what must you do to inherit eternal life?" This is how the conversation went...

Luke 10

27 And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself." 28 And he said to him, "You have answered correctly; do this, and you will live."

29 But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" 30 Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him and departed, leaving him half dead. 31 Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. 32 So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. 33 But a Samaritan as he journeyed, came to where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion. 34 He went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he set him on his own animal and brought him to an inn and took care of him. 35 And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take care of him, and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.' 36 Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?" 37 He said, "The one who showed him mercy." And Jesus said to him, "You go, and do likewise."

There is so much to this parable that could be debated, but the bottom line is, your neighbor is the person that you are called to love. We love the community that has become Tin Shed. As the abundance of food grows, Tin Shed will be spreading out into the neighborhoods around us, sharing food door to door. The desire is to never pass by a neighbor who may be in need. If you have an abundance, "You go, and do likewise".