



The Engagement Project | Tour Four | 10.24.2021 Replay message at: http://www.northpointeFL.org/messages

https://www.deltackett.com/what-is-engagement-project

Dr. Del Tackett is our Tour Guide through The Engagement Project. This Go Deeper is a Study Guide of key points and questions from Tour Four-- this includes both thoughts and questions presented by Dr. Del Tackett, as well as additional questions to go along with this Tour. The verses throughout the Study Guide are from Tour Four to be used for group/family discussion and to have them easily accessible for continued study, reminders and producing fruit of your own.

Engagement: The Royal Task

Tour Four focuses on the question(s) "Why did Jesus leave and what did He ask us to do?". This is the epoch where we live. Every epoch is characterized by an extraordinary event...something with eternal ramifications. This epoch, "The Royal Task", is characterized by two extraordinary events--Jesus physically left---and Jesus returned/God dwelling within us (Holy Spirit).

Dr. Del Tackett said there are so many commandments that sometimes it can feel like a burden. Matthew 11:28-30

- Have you ever felt like the commandments and laws are a burden?
- What would you say to someone who feels that the commandments and laws of God are a burden?

Galatians 5:14, Romans 13:9, James 2:8

All laws funnel down to one commandment, which is The Royal Law: Love your neighbor as yourself. This goes back to the true nature of God & "The Crown Jewel: Love." Love God, Love your neighbor, and Love one another, this is what Dr. Del Tackett calls "The Three Agapes". Matthew 22:34-40, John 13:34

During Tour Four, Dr. Del Tackett breaks down what "Love your neighbor" means starting with revisiting the what love really means.

Agape Love is a sacrificial zeal that seeks the true good of another.

Love your neighbor--"a steadfast sacrificial zeal that seeks the true good" of your neighbor.

Neighbor (plesion) means "one who lives near".

"Love your neighbor" ---"Have a steadfast sacrificial zeal that seeks the true good of one who lives near".

- What did you think it meant to "love your neighbor"?
 - What did this look like for you?
- Did your idea of "love your neighbor" change after watching Tour Four?
- Do you feel you truly love your neighbor?
 - What would/does this look like?

Dr. Del Tackett believes the primary work of The Kingdom has been entrusted to the common everyday Christian family. We are called to love our neighbor. Oftentimes, we respond to a commandment or law with "But wait".

Dr. Del Tackett gives us a few of the top "But wait" scenarios:

But wait...Aren't we supposed to love God first?

Scripture is not contradictory John 14:15 says "if you love me you will keep my commandments". John 14:21 tells us "He who has my commands and keeps them, it is he who loves me" and 1 John 5:3 "For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments". There is a close link between God's commands and loving him. If we are loving our neighbor we are loving God.

But wait...What about The Great Commission? Go into all the world--be fruitful, multiply, and fill the earth, Dr. Del Tackett suggests maybe the great commission was to be filled one neighbor at a time. 2 Timothy 2:2

But wait...Isn't this a general command- more philosophical than literal? Dr. Del Tackett calls this "Humanity Counterfeit" -- the notion that true love is loving the world or loving humanity.

"It is easier to be enthusiastic about Humanity with a capital H than it is to love individual men and women, especially those who are uninteresting, exasperating, depraved, or otherwise unattractive. Loving everybody in general may be an excuse for loving nobody in particular." C.S. Lewis

- What do you think about this quote?
- Give an example of when you have experienced a "Humanity Counterfeit"?

But wait...What about the good neighbor story? Read Luke 10:25-37

- Who showed a steadfast sacrificial zeal that seeks the true good of the one who lives near?
- Which of the three would you be?

<u>But wait...What about the poor and the hungry?</u> Dr. Del Tackett asked Who are the poor, hungry, and sick? How does God see these words? (Physically, financially, Or spiritually?)

Revelation 3:17, Luke 4:18-19, 2 Timothy 2:25-26

- In what ways are people (in general) captive by the devil?
- In what ways are you captive by the devil?

God does not primarily see our physical or economic situation...He sees our spiritual situation. We need to take a new look at our neighbors and see them through God's eyes.

- Are you looking at the spiritual situation of your neighbor?
- How can you look at people in this way?
 - What can you do when you see these things? (Spiritually sick, poor, hungry)

But wait...Isn't this the Church's job?

God has entrusted the primary work of The Kingdom to the common, every-day Christian. Royal law is simple, profound and ignored.

- Why is it ignored?
- Why don't we (in general) love our neighbor with an Agape Love?
- If you do not, why do you think that is?

Love God and love your neighbor...too simple, too hard. Dr. Del Tackett said there are about 80 million committed Christians, leaving 240 million others. If we each were to talk to three or four of our neighbors, loving them with an Agape love, we could reach them all. Christian families committed to the shalom of their neighbors. The people of God carrying out the royal law, turning the world upside down/right side up, one neighbor at a time.

Dr. Del Tackett says pray we catch the vision. If we catch the vision, it will change not only us but our families and the world around us.

What will you do to change the way you are loving your neighbors?