

Xenos Summer Institute – 2010
“Should I Not Love This City?”
God’s Community Adorning the Gospel
John Cleary

Intro:

Why the city?

- GOD’S PURSUIT

- JESUS’ EXAMPLE – John 1:14; Luke 10:25-37

- SENT AS LIGHTS – Matt 5:14-16

The Challenge!

- *How are we loving, and leading others to love, in “word and deed?”*

- *Am I actively silencing others accusations against God? 1 Pet 2:15, Titus 2:7,8*

- *Do we need to repent as a church?*

OUR NEXT MOVE?

- Prayer!
 - Begin with a few

 - Pray for ownership

 - “Prayer concert”

- Start where you are!
 - Neighborhoods
 - Jobs
 - Existing agencies
 - City-wide efforts
- Mobilize your team!
 - Broader discussions with all
 - Mission development
 - Leader-led volunteering
 - Priesthood of all believers
- Intentional movement forward!
 - Who?
 - Where?
 - When?
 - What?
 - How?

CONCLUSION

- “Let your light shine before men”
- There are many open doors for loving through “word and deed”
- It’s the very thing many of us need!
 - Isa 58:10,11

“You are never more like God than when you are living in relationships with God’s people and working in partnerships for the re-creation and redemption of God’s world.”

Ray Bakke, A Theology As Big As The City, p35