

# TO TRANSFORM A CITY

Guest Speak—Eric Swanson

November 16, 2014

## Introduction

Kingdom work involves a variety of people...believers and unbelievers. "Kingdom" is mentioned 121 times in the gospels and "Church" is mentioned three times. Jesus builds the church and the church helps build the kingdom, the embodiment of what life looks like when living under the reign of God.

## Discussion Questions

1. Most everyone wants to make a difference in the world, but very few people are given the opportunity to do so. What if Fairhaven Church became that place where everyone has a story to tell of how they are changing their city and the world? Describe how that would look?
2. Eric Swanson shared that Jesus' ministry was one of MERCY. We are encouraged to make another's life better for a day/a moment. He shared the example of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37) helping the wounded man through giving of his time, attention, care, compassion, companionship and money. Have you experienced a moment of mercy from someone in your life? How did that help you?
3. Mercy is love with legs. Mercy is God's attitude toward a person in distress. Is there someone in your life that you need to show mercy? How could you showing mercy have an impact on their life? What limitations prevent you showing mercy and why?
4. Three types of ministry were discussed: mercy, empowerment and evangelism. What distinguishes each of these ministries? How do you see a place for these in your life and journey of faith?
5. In a meeting with some of our community leaders Eric Swanson asked the question, "What evil should die because the church exists?" What is your answer?
6. Eric Swanson shared this quote from Keith Johnstone. "There are those who prefer to say yes and those who prefer to say no. Those who say yes are rewarded with the adventures they have, while those who say no are rewarded with the safety they attain. There are far more no-sayers than yes-sayers." How has this message changed your mind and encouraged you to make a difference?

## Conclusion

We are not social workers...we are kingdom workers anointed with the Holy Spirit. "Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit," says the Lord Almighty. Zechariah 4:6