



<b>DATE</b>	November 19, 2017
<b>SPEAKER</b>	Reggie McNeal
<b>TITLE</b>	Your Life is a Mission Trip
<b>SERIES</b>	You don't have to go on a mission trip to make an impact. There are things you can do right here and right now to help people in your community find hope in Jesus. Learn how to use what you bring to the table to make a local impact!

1. Dr. Reggie McNeal tells us that when God commands us to do something, it's for our own good. Explore how loving our neighbor is for our own good. How has loving someone made you a better person?
2. Part of living like we are on a mission trip is asking what breaks our hearts. What is your level of compassion for others? In contrast, what boundaries prevent you from getting involved in others' lives (i.e. fear, pride, comfort, judgment, etc.)? What do the following verses say about loving with boundaries: James 2:8-9, Romans 1:14-15?
3. Dr. McNeal said that if we ignore making necessary behavioral changes, our dream of serving becomes a nightmare. Have you seen evidence of this in your life or others around you? What practical ways can we change or shift our behavior to live a life of love and service?
4. Everyone has "stuff" (or unique talents) in their backpacks to use on their mission trip. Read the following verses and discuss what *The Bible* says about using our gifts: Ephesians 2:10, James 1:17, 1 Corinthians 12:4-6, 1 Peter 4:10-11, Romans 12:4-8. What is in your backpack? How can you use it to please God?
5. When serving, we can ask ourselves, "what is my scorecard," or what am I doing to make a difference? Sometimes the answer to this isn't always straightforward or immediately rewarding. Have there been times where you don't see positive outcomes for your service until much later? What steps could you take to ward off discouragement when results aren't immediate or positive?
6. Being in a community helps change lives. Recall a time when community helped you overcome an obstacle, learn something new, or grow in some way. Discuss a time when your situation was worse because of a lack of community.

Everyone has an unknown expiration date and the command from God to love others before that expiration date arrives. Consider praying this week that God will show you what you can do to obey.