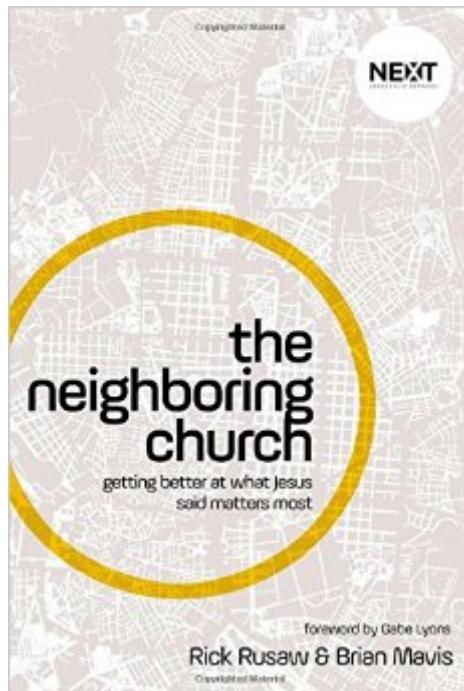


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# The Neighboring Church: Getting Better At What Jesus Says Matters Most



## Synopsis

The simple practice of loving our neighbors has more powerÂ than the best professionally produced Sunday "show" in town. After attending the "coolest" and fastest-growing church in town for a few months, Brian Mavis asked some of his neighbors if they would attend church with him. The neighbors said, "Thanks, but no thanks. We don't want to be part of an institutional church ... but we do want to know more about God, and we'd be happy to meet with you to learn more." So Brian began meeting with his neighbors in his home to share the love of God. And there it isâ "the call for us as Christians to do what Jesus said matters most: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart ... and love your neighbor as yourself"Â (Matthew 22:37â "40). But loving your neighbors is hard work, right? It's messy. It's unpredictable. It's time consuming. Jesus' two commands give rise to more angst, more wrestling, more failure, and more challenge than anything else you can try to do. And yet, following those two directions will bring more clarity, joy, and satisfaction to your life than anything you have ever experienced before. For the very first time, you will probably feel you are doing what God really called you to do as a Christian and as a church or ministry leader. In *The Neighboring Church* authors Brian Mavis and Rick Rusaw explore the hows of loving your neighbors. After all, loving the Lord with all your heart and following his lead automatically means loving your neighbors, because he loves them so much. Brian says, Neighboring is about teaching, encouraging, equipping, and releasing Christians to love their neighbors. I am compelled to be part of this movement because it is life-giving. It's the most creative way I know to follow Jesus. Besides, it's what he taught us to do. And there it is againâ "the secret to doing what Jesus says matters mostâ "the secret revealed in the book you hold.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Rusaw and Mavis present a new wind that is blowing in the church. "Being a good neighbor is better than a good program." They take us back to the early church where people met in homes to fellowship and share their faith in Jesus. The model they advocate is an incarnation model not an attraction model. Read this book! Attempt to put its challenging message into practice. This concept speaks to the culture we live in. Joe Grana Hope International University

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