

## **The Role of the Church in the Community – Part 12**

### **Urban Ministry in the End Time**

Welcome to Hope Sabbath School--an in-depth interactive study of the Word of God. We are continuing an exciting series of studies on The Role of the Church in the Community. Our topic today: Urban ministry in the end time.

Scripture Theme Song: It is good to give thanks (Ps. 92:1-4)

- 1) Reaching out to people in cities
  - a) Why is it important to reach out to people in urban areas? Mark 16:15 (how many people live in cities?)
  - b) The example of Jesus – Luke 10:1
  - c) The example of Paul in Corinth – Acts 18:1-18. What encouragement do you find in this story?
  - d) The example of Apollos – Acts 18:24-28. What lessons can we learn from the experience of Apollos?
  - e) The example of Paul in Athens – Acts 17:16-21 , 22-34. What lessons do you learn from this story?
  - f) What essential preparation is needed to effectively minister to people in urban areas?
- 2) Hearing the cry of those in the cities
  - a) Exodus 2:23-25; Exodus 6:5
  - b) Psalm 12:5
  - c) Jonah 4:10-11
  - d) 2 Peter 3:9
  - e) 1 Timothy 2:4
- f) How can we become more sensitive to the needs of those living in our cities?
- g) What opportunities and challenges will we face if our hearts reflect the caring heart of God?
- h) Share a time when you heard someone’s cry in the city.
- 3) Sowing seeds in the cities
  - a) Matthew 13:3-9 – This is a story about farming but it also relates to urban ministry. What types of soil are present in the cities?
  - b) What are some practical ways we can prepare the soil in urban areas for a great harvest?
  - c) Share an experience of doing seed sowing and soil cultivation in a city environment.
- 4) Connecting in a personal way in an impersonal city
  - a) In cities, we find many isolated people even though they walk on crowded streets.
  - b) How do the following texts help us to discover ways of connecting with people in urban areas?
    - i) Matthew 22:37-39
    - ii) James 1:27; James 2:15-16
    - iii) Galatians 6:1-2
  - c) “There are so many needy people in cities. What difference does it really make if we help a one or two of the millions in need?” How would you respond?
- 5) Finding joy as we share Jesus in the city
  - a) Luke 10:1,17
  - b) Romans 10:9-15
  - c) Share a time when you experienced joy as you shared Jesus in the city.