

Loving our Neighbors... because Hell is real

Focus: urging us to let the reality of hell shape us, especially as fuel for loving our neighbors and sharing Christ with them

Here is a helpful article on our topic. If you want a good thorough overview, this is a good one:

<http://matthiasmedia.com/briefing/2010/06/is-the-church-still-serious-about-hell/>

These short videos could be used as conversation starters:

<http://www.desiringgod.org/interviews/if-hell-is-real-how-can-god-be-loving>

<https://blogs.thegospelcoalition.org/justintaylor/2009/11/17/how-much-do-you-have-to-hate-somebody-to-not-proselytize/>

2016 Annual Priority:

To establish a greater devotion to believing and being shaped by the three great loves embedded in our mission statement's goal of becoming a mature and ministering worshiper of God; love for God, love for the church, and love of neighbor.

Discussion:

- Wow! where to begin?! I would suggest reading some of the major passages we touched on and just fielding people's reactions and questions. You can stir the pot with questions like this:

- How does/ought this teaching on hell affect you?

- What questions does it raise about God? How do you cope with that? What perspective/scripture helps you?

- What burdens does this teaching bring to you? Who are you especially concerned for?

- How ought this doctrine teach your prayers? your calendar? Your conversations with lost friends and family?

- Here are some good central passages: Matt. 13.41-42; 47-50; 25:41-46; 2 Thess. 1.6-9; Rev. 14:9-11; Jude 21-23; Matt. 5.29-30; Rev. 20.11-15

- There are some additional resources in the sidebar that you may want to watch/read together to discuss as well.

- Be mindful that hell is deeply troubling and we don't all have it down in perfectly orthodox fashion! Be gracious, but point people to the Scriptures!

