

BE RICH TO OTHERS, WEEK 2

Scripture used: [I Timothy 6:18 \(NLT\)](#)

OVERVIEW

This week is our second Be Rich to Others! message. Pastor Hurmon began this week with a powerful reminder: it is so easy to forget about love. During this period of unprecedented fear, many of us are struggling to understand our role as a Jesus follower. We are the people who have been elected by Jesus, the same way God elected Him! But what exactly does that mean? What were we elected to do? This week we focused on two powerful answers to that profound question. First, we have been elected to transmit the redemptive love of Jesus. Second, we have been elected to love extravagantly. That is what this season is all about. Be Rich To Others is an outreach that brings us closer to Jesus as a church. We are serving others through praying, loving, and giving. All together this adds up to a powerful force for healing and unity in the Bay Area and the world!

KEY POINTS

- 1) **We have been elected by God.** [Colossians 3:12 \(NKJV\)](#) describes Jesus followers as “the elect of God.” This is the exact same message that Jesus spoke to the disciples in [John 20:21 \(NIV\)](#). They were huddled together, locked away in a room trying to hide from the authorities. The disciples needed a way to gather their strength for the difficult work ahead. Jesus told them that He was electing them the same way that God elected Him. This is still true today. Jesus elected His followers to make every effort to be the difference in the world, as described in [II Peter 1:10 \(NIV\)](#).
- 2) **This time of uncertainty is a chance to be rich to others.** Every day is a chance to demonstrate the redemptive love of Jesus. That is what our Be Rich to Others campaign is all about. We are serving the world with prayer, love, and gifts. We are trying to pray for 65,000 minutes. We are trying to love people in need with 2,000 hygiene kits. And we are trying to give away \$75,000 to 7 select community partners. As a church we take our election seriously to be rich to others!
- 3) **This time of divisiveness is a chance to become more like Jesus.** In [II Chronicles 7:14 \(NIV\)](#), we see how we can be God’s instruments to heal our land. There are specific things we can do right now to start the hard work of fixing our broken world. Paul described this as the daily practice of becoming more like Jesus in [Romans 8:28-29 \(NLT\)](#).
 - a. **Be humble.** First, we must be humble. We should start every conversation from the place of listening and acknowledging. Be open to learning because we never start with the whole story. Pastor Hurmon explained how many people came to him with stories of anger and fear. They wanted to be better Jesus followers but couldn’t see past their own pain. Again he reminded us that it is so easy to lose sight of love.
 - b. **Be prayerful.** Second, we must pray and seek God’s face. Turning to God will help us find opportunities to be a healing, uniting force. We can begin by confessing by how we really feel about the brokenness of the world. Then we can surrender to His authority. We will then start to gain the grace and strength necessary to love those who disagree with us about divisive issues such as the election.

DISCUSSION

- 1) **HEAR** - The election is barely over, and there is still a lot of uncertainty. How do you feel about everything that’s happening? Have you shared this with God in prayer? What have you heard back from Him?
- 2) **UNDERSTAND** - Pastor Hurmon asked us to reflect on this question: “In what ways will I pray about my heart?” Our hearts so easily take in the poison of this world, and we adopt the partisanship of the world in a way that makes us unable to love those who seem like enemies. Living and living as Jesus calls us is incredibly difficult - but it is possible if we ask God to keep working on our hearts to allow us to love and find common ground with those with whom we disagree. This is what our world desperately needs.
- 3) **DO** - Go to [NBCC’s Be Rich website](#). Commit to praying 5 minutes per day for the practical needs of our community, referencing [Matthew 25:37-40 \(NIV\)](#). Build at least one hygiene kit per family member and dropping them off on December 5th (in San Jose) or December 6th (in Redwood City). [Give \\$39.95 per person](#), or whatever is possible for you and your family right now.