

Dream Crazy Big: Serve

Scripture used: [1 Timothy 6:18 \(NLT\)](#)

OVERVIEW

Adam Peacocke, the Director of the Sonoma County Churches United Relief Team, delivered a guest sermon on the transformative power of service (Crazy Rich Service). This is part of our [“Dream Crazy Big” sermon series](#), which breaks down three major aspects of dreaming God’s dreams for our lives: loving, serving, and giving. Pastor Peacocke’s sermon used the example of how all the churches in Sonoma County came together last year. They were called to organize after seeing the consequences from the largest wildfire in state history. As followers of Christ, they saw this tragic event as an opportunity to practice their faith! This collection of churches organization received help from NBCC in the form of a significant donation from our 2017 “Be Rich” campaign, which was distributed to people rebuilding their homes and lives. Pastor Peacocke wants to build on last year’s success, and his inspiring stories confirmed the massive impact we can have when we live out the values of Jesus in our everyday lives!

KEY POINTS

- 1) **Crazy rich service means being interruptible.** The parable of the Good Samaritan is the classic example of why it’s so important that we are open to serving, even if it’s inconvenient. We should expect that our lives will be interrupted by others in need. When these interruptions occur, we have a choice: offer to help or ignore the cry for help. It is our internal character - not the external circumstances - that determines our response. When we are in relationship with God and expressing the love that overflows from Him, we will make the right choice.
- 2) **Crazy rich service means being connected.** Working together, we can do so much more than each individual working on his or her own. That is what it means to be a church, particularly when we are using our God-given gifts to help others. Pastor Peacocke saw this in action when the churches around Sonoma County formed a group that has now helped thousands of people reclaim their lives since last year’s fire. Their gifts are being put to use on a daily basis, helping people with food, water, and shelter.
- 3) **Crazy rich service means being consistent.** Lots of people are willing to help right after a tragedy. Pretty soon, however, enthusiasm gives way to disillusionment. The honeymoon is over, and the real work begins. That’s why relationships - not resources - are the most important aspect of service. We need to commit for the long term because it takes time for the community to rebuild itself.
- 4) **God uses crazy rich service as a way to bring the church out to the community.** In [Matthew 5:15-16 \(NLT\)](#) the church is described as being “placed” so that its “good deeds shine out for all to see.” That means getting out of our comfort zone and into the world, which is full of broken people who need our love. Both big and small tragedies are opportunities for all Christians to live out their values by serving the community.

DISCUSSION

- 1) **HEAR** - Pastor Peacocke emphasized that everyone has needs, and it’s our responsibility as followers of Jesus to cater to those needs. Think back to the last time you had the opportunity to help out someone in need. Did you follow through, or just walk by? Why do you think you made the decision you did?
- 2) **UNDERSTAND** - It’s been over a year since the devastating fires that swept Northern California, but Sonoma County Churches United Relief Team has plenty of work left. Many homes still need to be rebuilt, and their organization was placed there to ensure all those people are taken care of. Where is God trying to place you? What are the needs of your community, or where has God prompted your heart to serve others? How can you connect with others to help? Have you experienced the ways that serving others is essential to growing in your relationship with God?
- 3) **DO** - NBCC just kicked off our [“Be Crazy Rich” campaign](#) for 2018! Sign up to love, serve, and give along with thousands of other people. Love by bringing in school supplies ([details here](#)), serve by signing up to volunteer at either [Garfield Community School](#) or [Santee Elementary School](#) on November 11th, and [give by donating](#) \$39.95 per person in your family. If you need some encouragement, proclaim the response to this week’s message: “I will match my dreams to serve with prayer!”