

## Daily Devotional, January 27, 2021 And Like a Good Neighbor

***“Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.” 1Thessalonians 5:11 (NIV)***

One of my favorite TV shows from awhile back was “Home Improvement.” This great show featured Tim Allen playing Tim “The Tool Man” Taylor. The show was centered around the fictional family, the Taylors. Tim and his wife, Jill, had a wonderful family with three boys. Their family, and more often than not, Tim, often found themselves in numerous difficult situations. Although the show was a comedy, each situation carried with it not only humor, but many struggles within the family.

The show featured Tim as the dad that was often the main cause of the struggles his family faced. Tim would unwittingly cause a problem and then try his best to solve it. Unfortunately, Tim did not always possess the wisdom needed to lead his family out of the problems he created. Whenever he really struggled, more often than not due to his urgency to use “more power” to fix his problems, he would turn to Wilson, his wise and experienced neighbor. Tim and Wilson would talk over the Taylor family problems at the backyard fence. Wilson was a famous yet mysterious character known for never showing his face and always providing much needed insight and help to Tim.

Home Improvement was a great success for eight seasons. There were many reasons for the show’s success, but one of the most enduring reasons is the relationship between Tim and Wilson. They were two neighbors who cared for one another. They listened to each other and shared what they had to help each other out as a neighbor should always be willing to do.

When I think of what it looks like to be a good neighbor, I can’t help but think of Wilson. He was always ready to help. He cared for the Taylor family and gave them his help whenever needed. This is what a neighbor does. A neighbor helps those in need. A neighbor gives their time, wisdom, and help to make things better for those around them.

Even during this time of social distancing and isolation there has never been a better time to be a good neighbor to those around us, most especially to those who may not be able to get out and must rely on outside help. How about the neighbors around you that fit that description? Have you been looking out for them and checking up on their needs? Today might be a good day to do just that, especially for those who might be snowed in. How about being a good neighbor and checking in today?

***Prayer: Bless the good neighbors, Lord, who call to check that all is well, and share of their own riches, and chat with those who struggle to get out, and whose gentle act of service brings a ray of light into a day that would otherwise be cheerless. Bless them, and all who likewise give of their time for others in following your good example, that this might become a better and more caring world in which to live. Following in Jesus’ example, Amen.***