**CITY MINISTRY | LUKUS COUNTERMAN | APR 25, 2020**

*THE NEED FOR AND STRATEGIC NATURE OF CITY MINISTRY*

**THE CITY IN SCRIPTURE**

Do you know that cities have their place in scripture? We see a number of cities in the Bible because they were \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Do you know that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is referred to as a city?

**CITY FACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW**

The future of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is heading towards urban centers.

Cities are getting \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and there are more cities than ever before in human history.

In the next 30 years sociologists expect that we will add \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ people to urban areas.

**WHAT DOES ALL THIS MEAN FOR US?**

All of this means that cities are strategic targets for ministry.

* The urban density creates \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* The city is actually filled with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ people.
* The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ are moving to the city.
* Cities are centers of power and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**WHAT’S NEEDED IN CITY MINISTRY**

1. We need the ability to present a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ message in unreasonable times.
2. We need to have the ability to welcome \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and address their intellectual and religious questions with a respectful and humble yet intelligent apologetic.
3. We need to be a countercultural force that contrasts the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the city, and seeks to live according to creational design.
4. We need to reflect on the connection between the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and our particular city culture.

**LEARN YOUR CITY**

Seek to “Learn Your City” by making ethnographic observations, asking good questions, discovering what people are like, listening to the broad narratives, identifying cultural trends, manifestations of historical roots, unique expressions of idolatry, or roadblocks to the gospel. Ask questions like, “What is the vocabulary of these people? Who are their heroes? What do they celebrate? Who are the voices of authority that speak to Salt Lakers? What are the greatest points of skepticism in the city? What are the biggest concerns or loudest fears of these people? What are the plausibility structures (the things everybody knows, the self-evident premises or presuppositions) in Salt Lake? What are the good and bad aspects of SLC culture?” Then after pursuing those questions and listening carefully for local answers, make summary statements and interpretive conclusions about what you’ve learned.