

THE REFUGE  
December Serve  
December 2, 2018

**Guest: Tim Ulrich – The Refuge OKC**

Vision and Values Behind Missional Connecting at The Refuge OKC

First off, we are not your “typical” inner city ministry. Our vision is to see Oklahoma City transformed. What we don’t want to be is a place for concerned people (sometimes we refer to them as suburbanites), to come down and pass out free food and free clothing, and then drive away. We don’t want to be a ministry for individuals to come and just feel good about volunteering a couple of hours for the poor people who live in the inner city. We want to see individuals (suburbanites, urbanites and ruralites) begin to love this city well. So, our missional DNA is to help restore the streets physically, to see doors opened relationally within our neighborhoods, and to trust that Jesus is going to do something super-naturally spiritually.

There’s a cool picture of what this looks like in the book of Joel. It’s a prophecy that was fulfilled when Jesus rose from the dead and sent His Spirit to fill His people. It says that He will raise up an army of men, women, young and old. This army will hear from God and obey Him. They will live in the natural, but have His supernatural power to change things. They will listen to Him. They will believe each one is equally valuable and they will honor each other. They will bring His presence to all people and HE will get the credit! The Church IS that army, and the time is now—so let’s go change the world one neighbor and one neighborhood at a time!

**...the restoration of the Church will surely come only from a new type of monasticism which has nothing in common with the old, but a complete lack of compromise in a life lived in accordance with the Sermon on the Mount in the discipleship of Christ. I think it is time to gather people together to do this...**

**-Dietrich Bonhoeffer**