

The Theology of the Hammer

Habitat for Humanity and The Theology of the Hammer. The theology of the hammer teaches us to put aside our differences and to work in partnership with one another. Millard Fuller, Founder of Habitat for Humanity, explains it this way:

This theology is about bringing a wide diversity of people, churches, and other organizations together to build houses and establish viable and dynamic communities. It is acknowledging that differences of opinion exist on numerous subjects—political, philosophical, and theological—but that we can find common ground in using a hammer as an instrument to manifest God’s love. Even though there may be strong differences on all sorts of things—baptism, communion, what night to have prayer meeting, and how the preacher should dress, for example—we can agree on the imperative of the gospel to serve others in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Old Testament prophet Isaiah describes this spirit of cooperation as well: “The Wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and fatling together, and a little child shall lead them.” (Isaiah 11:6)

When we respond to God’s call to help our neighbors, it is amazing how easily we forget our differences. As we focus on working together to build a house, we realize that the things that make us the same become more important than the things that keep us apart. Putting the theology of the hammer into practice will help us eliminate poverty housing and will also glorify God.



For more information, please call
877-926-6434

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