

The Art of Neighboring: The Time Barrier
Week 2 // Weekly
June 14-June 20, 2020

*Let participants know whether they should watch the video before your group meeting or if you will be watching during the meeting.

Getting Started –

- Welcome people as they arrive
- If you have someone new, please have people introduce themselves.
- Get to know each other better: Ask “When do you feel closest to God?”
- Ask: “What was the “next step” that you shared the last time we were together? How did it go?” Go around the group and have everyone share.

Discussion Questions – *(watch video here if your group didn't watch in advance)*

- **What was your biggest take away from this week's video? What stuck out to you? What did you like? What was difficult or confusing?**
- Read **Luke 10:38-42**
 - **Do you associate more with Martha or Mary? If you were going to defend Martha in that moment, what would you want to say?** Any comments or questions are fine here. We want people to process the Scripture together.
 - **Discuss the following myths and how you see them impacting our culture.**
 1. **Things in my life will settle down someday.**
 2. **A little more money/a few more things/one more promotion will be enough.**
 3. **Everybody lives like this.**
 4. **If my kid doesn't participate in _____, their childhood won't be complete/they won't be able to get into the best college/etc.**

Allow for open sharing. Help stretch people's thinking here. What are the very real impacts on people's lives from thinking these thoughts? What do they do to our pace of life? What do they do to our relationships?

- **Which of the three myths do you struggle with the most? How does that reveal itself in your life?** Allow for open sharing.
- **Imagine yourself with the time it would take to be a great neighbor. What are the things you would have to sacrifice or say “no” to in order to make that a reality? What would it be worth? What could change in your life or in your neighborhood?**
This is a strategy often used in counseling. If people can imagine a healthier way of living, the steps to get there become clear. It can be very daunting to think about cutting activities in our lives. Imagining a better way of living can give people the motivation to make some hard choices. You may want to start by having people imagine together what it even means to be a great neighbor.

Moving Forward –

- **Do the Block Map** – Have people share if they were able to fill in any of the blank spaces. Were they able to meet or have conversations with neighbors who might not be in those 8 houses, but who live in their neighborhood?
- **Identify one neighbor** that you are going to pray for during the next week. Take time to pray in the group for the neighbors that were mentioned.
- **Share one small “next step”** that you feel God is calling you to take in the next 7 days. Have them share that step out loud and write it down so that everyone can be praying throughout the week. Ideas include:
 - Learn a specific neighbor’s name
 - Invite a couple over for dinner
 - Ask a neighbor for advice on how to take care of your lawn because their lawn is nicer.
- Encourage each member of your group to **sign up for Bless Every Home** on the Northside Events page if they haven’t yet.
- **Remind them of the next meeting time and close in prayer.**

On Your Own

Look at your calendar and do an audit of how you have spent your time over the last two weeks. Reflect on how well your calendar is aligned with your priorities. Note that due to COVID-19 and quarantine, many of us have lighter calendar loads than normal. Are there things you can decide not to add back in?