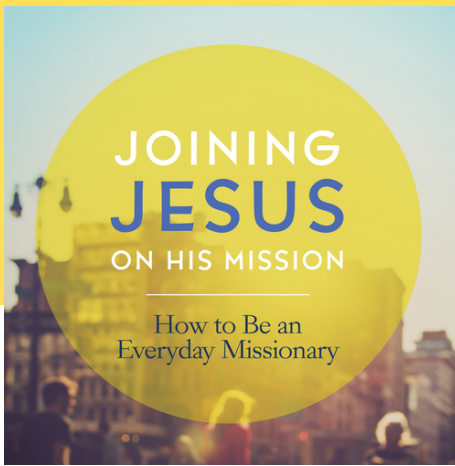


From Worship to Weekday

Week 6

Study guide for personal reflection
or for use by your small group



Book chapters 17-18
Sermon Text: Luke 10:25-36

Before the Video: Each person take a moment to share with the group the insights and experiences you have had over the last several days as you sought to join Jesus on his mission in your everyday life. If you were able to interact with neighbors from any of your various neighborhoods, tell your story to the group. You can use the 5 Questions to help you get started.

- How did you see God at work this week?
- What has Jesus been teaching you in his Word?
- What kind of conversations are you having, especially with those who are not yet Christians?
- What good can we do around here?
- How can we help you in prayer?

Last week we discussed ministering through prayer. Did you have an experience this week praying with someone? If so, share the story with the group, along with how it went and how you felt.

WATCH THE JOINING JESUS VIDEO 9

After the Video:

What is "neighboring" and why is it a simple but critical part of being a Neighborhood Missionary?

The video shared a story of one example of starting to get to know one's neighbors that God has placed around in the neighborhood. The video noted how a simple neighborhood gathering began to catalyze a powerful shift in their neighborhood. - from ignoring neighbors to enjoying neighbors.

What new insights came to you during their story or how were you affirmed?

Give the group a brief update on how your planning and inviting is going for hanging out with a neighbor(s). How were your plans or experiences reflected in the video?

If you are struggling to make progress neighboring in your neighborhood, what's been in the way? What do you think is the resistance?

Take time right now to stop and pray about this resistance. Prayer is not a last resort but a first response.

Neighboring by hanging out and having fun creates the time and space for conversations to begin and, when it is Jesus' timing, to go deeper. This formula was shared to describe how neighboring works best.

Unhurried Time + Proximity + Activity (usually involving food and drink)
= Conversation x Time = Friendship

What makes sense about this formula?

Is there an area of your life that you have been failing to give people unhurried time? How can you remind yourself to be fully attentive and present for others?

COVID-19 makes the possibility of a block party difficult right now. What are some other ways that you can create conversation and community with the people God has placed around you?

Who could help you make this happen?

Is neighboring all we have to do to join Jesus on his mission in our neighborhoods? No. But it is how we start. So what's your plan for starting? Or if you have started, what's your plan for next steps?

Read Luke 10:25-36

What stands out to you in this parable?

Verse 29 says that the lawyer was seeking to justify himself. How might he have aimed to do that by asking the question "who is my neighbor?" Do we ever attempt to do this?

The lawyer asks a follow up question to the command to love one's neighbor as themselves. However, he does not ask a follow up question regarding the command to love God with one's whole being. This might indicate that the lawyer believes that his efforts to love God are adequate. Why might he think the way he does? Is he right?

The priest and Levite are the "religious" people in this story, while the Samaritan was an unwanted outsider. How does this story caution us from getting complacent simply because we're Christian?

Leviticus 21 lays out rules for priests and Levites. Verse 1 says,

"And the Lord said to Moses, "Speak to the priests, the sons of Aaron, and say to them, No one shall make himself unclean for the dead among his people....!"

To touch a dead person would have been breaking God's law for a priest or Levite. How does this give a fuller context for the priest and Levite's actions?

Faced with two seemingly conflicting laws (do not defile yourself by touching the dead and loving one's neighbor), which one do the priest and Levite decide to follow? Why might they chose that one?

Have you experienced a time when you were confronted with two seemingly conflicting laws? How might we Join Jesus in those times?

To touch a possible dead person could have brought shame and exclusion for the priest and Levite. It could have cost them status and reputation.

Are there people in your life whom you would not want to associate with but need Jesus? What might it cost you to spend time neighboring to them? How does this parable speak to that?

"A-Ha!" Insights to Action: What was the most significant insight you had as a result of today's video and discussion? Take 3 minutes to write down your insight and what you think Jesus might be giving you to believe and/or do as a result. This is your self-identified assignment for joining Jesus in the coming days.

Have each person take 60 seconds to share their self-identified assignment with the group.

In the coming days watch for the opportunities Jesus will give you to put your self-identified assignments into play. The next time your group meets be ready to tell the stories of what happened (whether little or large).

Ministering through Prayer: As we prepare to head out on our mission adventure with Jesus, have each person ask the next person, "How can I help you in prayer?" After everyone has had a turn to answer, each person then prays for their neighbor. Write the prayer request in the space below so you won't forget. As a church, we would love to pray for both you and your neighbors. If you have any prayer requests, you can send them to us at prayer@bethlehemdenver.com, and our Prayer and Praise Team will pray for you.