

TOOGE

THER

FOR



**MISSION**

*To lead people into a life-changing relationship with Jesus—because Jesus can change everything for anyone.*

**VISION**

*We are a church together for our neighbors, the next generation, and those in need so that the Puget Sound and beyond can flourish.*



## HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

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In 1969, 23 men and women gathered together in a garage in Kirkland, Washington, to start a church that wasn't built on what they were against but what they were for: The good news of Jesus. Authentic community. Compassion for the hurting. Overflowing generosity. You could say they were together for...

Over 50 years later, the Puget Sound has experienced dramatic growth and seismic cultural change, but our church remains committed to that same vision: to be a church together for our neighbors, the next generation, and those in need so that the Puget Sound and beyond can flourish.

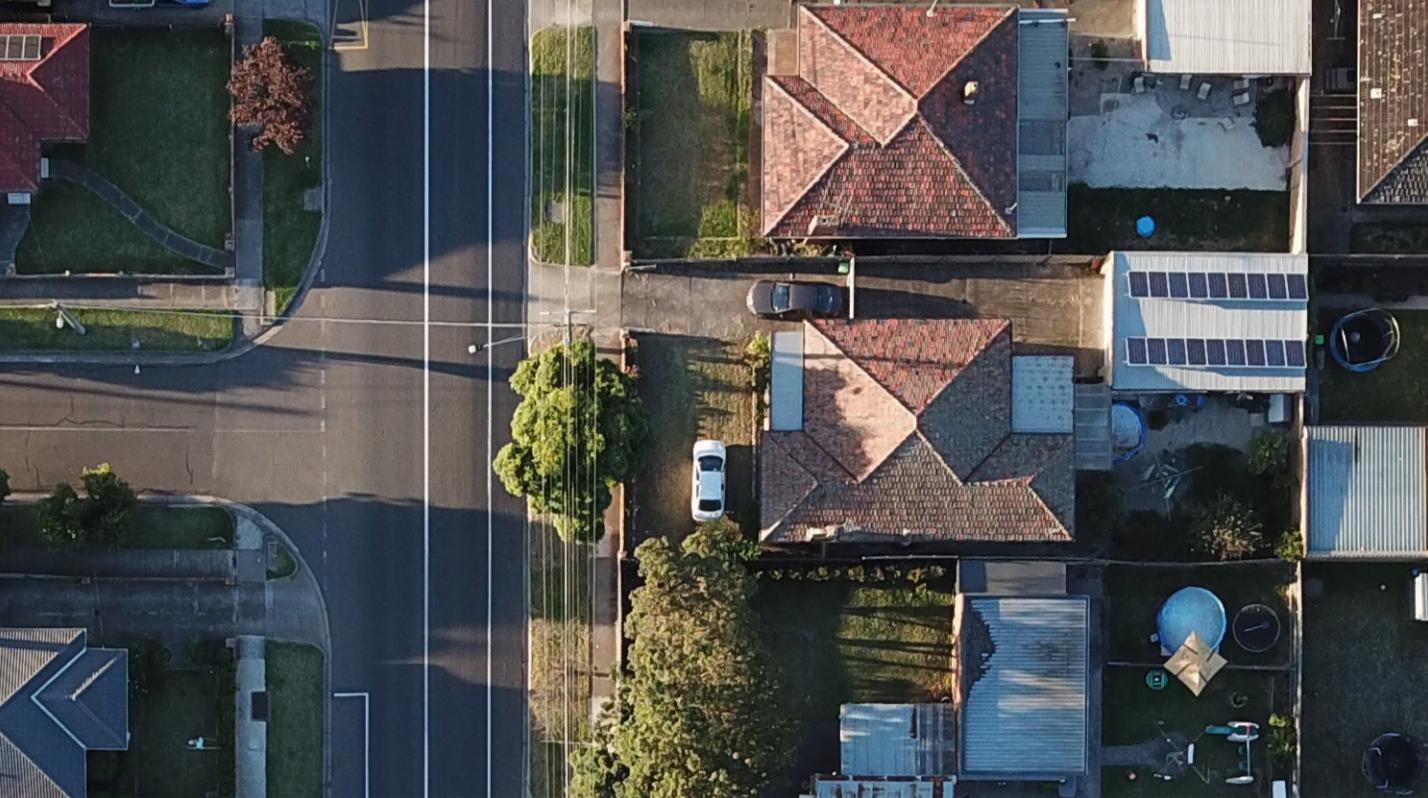
We want to give you some ideas on how you can be for your neighbors, for the next generation, and for those in need in your everyday life. This is not an exhaustive list—it's just a way to help you get started. Pray through it. Discuss it with your Life Group. Ask God for guidance. And then do something about it!

I believe Jesus can change everything for anyone, and it starts with us being together for.



# **TOGETHER FOR OUR NEIGHBORS**

*For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." (Galatians 5:14)*



**One of the most important words in the Bible is “neighbor.” When Jesus was asked what the single greatest commandment was, He said, “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ The second is this: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself’” (Mark 12:30-31). In other words, loving God means loving people. And if you don’t love people, then you can’t love God.**



## WHO IS MY NEIGHBOR?



**Fill out this chart with neighbors you can love.**

- *Start with your neighbors on your street, in your apartment complex, in your dorm.*
- *You can include colleagues at work or school*
- *Make sure you don't settle for people who are just like you.*



## *Give these a try...*

- **TAKE A PLATE OF COOKIES OR TREATS TO MEET A NEIGHBOR YOU DON'T KNOW.**
- **INVITE A NEIGHBOR OVER (FOR LUNCH/DINNER, DRINKS, PLAY DATE, ETC).**
- **HELP A NEIGHBOR WITH A HOME-IMPROVEMENT PROJECT.**
- **ORGANIZE A NEIGHBORHOOD BLOCK PARTY OR FACEBOOK GROUP.**
- **START A BOOK CLUB.**



# **TOGETHER FOR THE NEXT GENERATION**

The reason the church grew in the first century is not just because the apostle Paul planted new churches, but because they raised up new leaders from the next generation and trusted the Holy Spirit.

Being for the next generation is no different today. It means sharing your life, your time, your experience, and even your mistakes. It's not about seeing their problems, it's seeing their potential. It means your legacy isn't your own achievements, it's their achievements.



**Being for the next generation  
means your life will have 3 stories:  
someone who is investing in you,  
your story, and someone in whom  
you're investing.**

**WHO IS INVESTING IN ME:**

**MY NAME:**

**WHO I AM INVESTING IN:**



## *Give these a try...*

- **ASK YOUR LOCAL SCHOOL FOR A TEACHER WISH LIST AND BUY SOMETHING THEY'RE REQUESTING.**
- **VOLUNTEER TO HELP AT YOUR LOCAL SCHOOL (TUTOR, CROSSING GUARD, OFFICE HELP, ETC.).**
- **VOLUNTEER WITH THE NEXT GENERATION (NORTHSHORE KIDS OR STUDENTS, YMCA, COACH A TEAM, ETC).**
- **MENTOR A YOUNGER PERSON ON YOUR STREET, IN YOUR OFFICE, OR AT YOUR SCHOOL.**



# **TOGETHER FOR THOSE IN NEED**

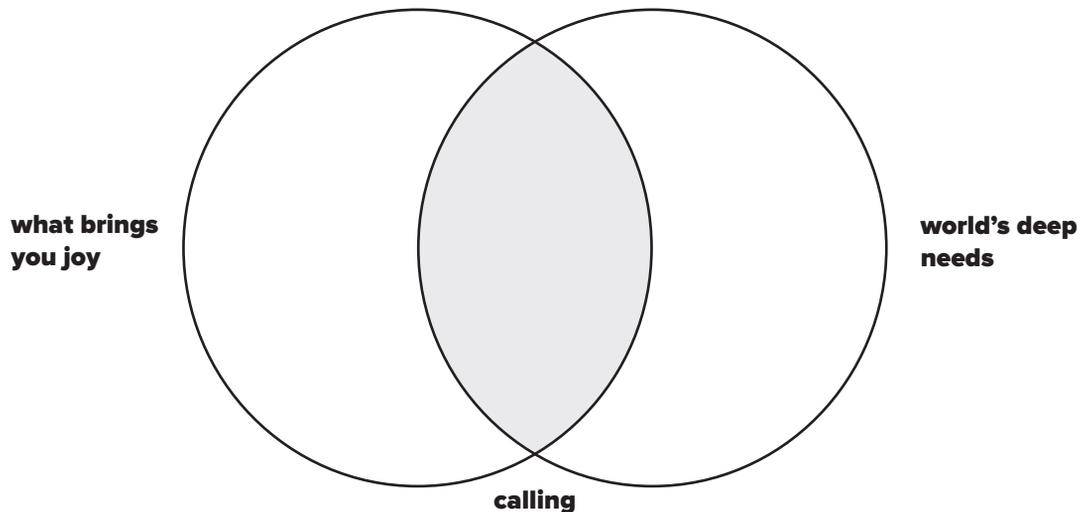
Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.” (Matthew 25:40)

The early church took this seriously. They cared for the poor, they visited people in prison, they took in unwanted children as their own. In Acts 4:33-34 it says, “God’s grace was so powerfully at work in them all that there were no needy persons among them.” Just imagine that happening again today!

# Find Your Calling

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*A pastor and writer named Frederick Buechner once wrote, “The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world’s deep hunger meet.”*



Think about what brings you joy. Now think about the greatest needs around you. Think about a way they can overlap. Then jump in.

To learn more about your spiritual gifts or to find places where you can serve, go to [northshore.church/volunteer](https://northshore.church/volunteer).



## *Give these a try...*

- ***DONATE TO A LOCAL FOOD BANK OR VOLUNTEER TO HELP STOCK AND ORGANIZE.***
- ***VOLUNTEER IN A CARE OR RECOVERY MINISTRY.***
- ***VISIT THE RESIDENTS OF A RETIREMENT OR NURSING HOME.***
- ***BUY A RESTAURANT OR MOVIE THEATER GIFT CARD FOR SOMEONE WHO NEEDS SUPPORT.***
- ***GET MORE FAMILIAR WITH THE NEEDS IN YOUR CITY OR COMMUNITY. MAKE ONE A PRIORITY.***

A large audience is gathered in a theater or arena, illuminated by purple and blue stage lights. The ceiling features a pattern of glowing purple circles. In the foreground, several people are standing and looking towards the stage. On the right, a person is visible on a circular stage, holding a large, colorful object. The overall atmosphere is vibrant and celebratory.

# *FINAL THOUGHTS*

So those are some ideas to be together for your neighbors, the next generation, and those in need. When we do this, we bring the good news of Jesus into our world one person at a time.

Imagine what could happen if we took that seriously... together. So, consider what you can do next. Is it linking arms with your neighbors? Your friends? Whichever you decide, it is better in community. Maybe it's with others at Northshore.

With you,

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*Scott*

To find a Life Group at: [northshore.church/life-groups](http://northshore.church/life-groups)

**northshore.church**