



Video 9: "A Mission Trip to Our Own Neighborhood" Matthew 9:9-13 | Book chapters 17-18

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. What did Jesus seem to be showing you? How did you respond? 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 took up the challenge of starting to regularly pray for our neighbors. How is that going?

Processing Our Insights:

- 1) What is "neighboring" and why is it a simple but critical part of being a Neighborhood Missionary?
- 2) The Finke's shared their story of starting to get to know the neighbors God had placed around them in their neighborhood. They 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.
- 3) 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. The Finke's gave a simple formula to describe how neighboring works best. See if your group can fill in the formula together:

- _____ time + _____ + _____ (usually involving food and drink) = _____ x over time = _____.
- What makes sense about this formula?

4) 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?

Before We Go

Note: You may want to break into groups of three.

“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 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.

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