

Video 3: "Mission Mindset Changes" Matthew 11:19 | Book 1 chapter(s) 3-6

Processing Our Insights:

The first mission mindset change we are already familiar with: Jesus is on a mission and He invites us to join Him. We don't go for Jesus. We go with Jesus. He is already at work in the lives of everyone in every "neighborhood." Our part is to **seek, recognize & respond** to what He is already up to in people's lives.

- Can it really be this simple?

The second mission mindset change is that **the river has moved**. Our culture has moved from a church-culture to a mission field. Even our very best services and programming are not enough to attract a significant percentage of the community into our church buildings like they used to.

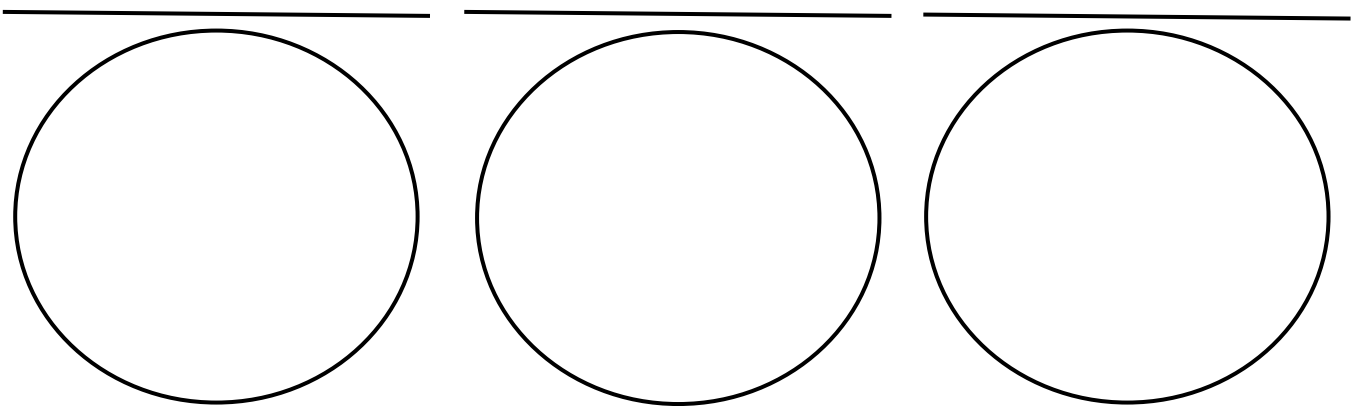
- What challenges do you (and your congregation) face now that the river has moved?

The third mission mindset change is to trust that our secret weapon for joining Jesus on His mission is **being with and enjoying people**. In other words, we imitate what Jesus did in the Gospels.

- What do you think could keep you from imitating Jesus' strategy? How can He help you overcome this?

Joining Jesus Exercise

Today we focus on three simple but important changes in how we think about mission. To give us a context for this experience, take a few minutes to identify the various "neighborhoods" in which you spend significant time. Label the circles below to represent each of your "neighborhoods," for example, home, work, gym, coffee shop, school, etc. Draw additional circles as needed. Then in the circle write the names of people you know from each "neighborhood."

Three large empty circles are arranged horizontally, each preceded by a horizontal line. These circles are intended for the user to draw and label their own "neighborhoods" and list people they know from each.

The Finke's presented a simple formula for joining Jesus on His mission: **Enjoy People + Seek, Recognize and Respond** to what Jesus is already doing in the lives of the people we are enjoying

- As you think about these mission mindset changes, how do they impact the way you may relate to the various people you have identified in your "neighborhoods" (above)?

- As you think about the various people in your “neighborhoods,” what would it take to create the time and space to occasionally hang out with them and enjoy them like we see Jesus doing in the Gospels? (You do not need to think in terms of doing something every day or even every week, but every once in a while.)

My Plan to Enjoy People

- Who?
- What/Where?
- When?
- Who else can be included?
- Who can help me with this plan?

Bring it Home

This week, take time to pray: “Dear Jesus, You have placed various neighbors near me. Who is ripe for some unhurried time with me and You? Amen.”

- Which person or family came to mind during the prayer? Write down their name(s). (Perhaps Jesus has been preparing them for such a time as this.)
- What could be your plan for hanging out with this person within the next month?
- In the coming weeks, take a small but intentional step toward joining Jesus on His mission by implementing your plan. (Contact the person(s) and invite them to what you’ve planned. See if they are available within the next month for your get-together.)

Next time, let the group know how it’s going and where you are at.

[Note: If you are more introverted, how can you spend time with a “neighbor” in a way that may challenge but does not violate your relational wiring? If you are more extroverted, how can you build on your previous friendly encounters with neighbors to begin forming deeper friendships? Also, if you do not know a person or family very well, perhaps you could expand the plan to include other people as well. If the person who came to mind is of the opposite sex, be wise and be sure to invite additional people to join you.]