



SHORELINE.CHURCH



WOMEN'S DISCIPLESHIP  
COMMUNITY

# WHO IS MY NEIGHBOR?

Jesus, when asked to identify the greatest commandment, responds by saying, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind"; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" (Luke 10:27). He did not instruct His people to pray more, give more to the poor, or be the holiest person possible. Instead, Jesus says that the greatest commandment is to love Him with our whole lives and the second and equally important commandment is to love our neighbors. Loving God means that we naturally develop a love for others. Let's pause for a moment. What did Jesus mean by this?

Jesus quotes Leviticus 19:18 in this second command to love our neighbors. The book of Leviticus outlines God's design for how the Israelite community ought to live as His people. God intended communities to care for each other - especially those on the outskirts such as foreigners, widows, orphans, and the poor. Yet in true Jesus fashion, He expands this Old Testament command through a parable recorded in Luke 10:25-37. Our neighbors become anyone in our sphere of influence: our physical neighbors, family, friends, co-workers...even our enemies! Our concern for ourselves no longer becomes the top priority; it becomes identifying opportunities to love and serve others.

The reality is we all have neighbors - whether they live next door or are in our broader circle of influence. God has placed us in those circles for such a time as this. He has uniquely equipped each of us to serve one another according to His timing and purpose. Our job as Christians is to respond to His command. The best way we can love and serve our neighbors is through sharing the greatest gift we have received - salvation in Jesus Christ. This month, we invite you to boldly share your faith with your friends and neighbors that do not yet know Jesus. Together, let's "go and do likewise" (Luke 10:37) and be the neighbor that everyone wants to live by: **The Good Neighbor!**



## CHECK OUT OUR PLAYLIST ON SPOTIFY!

Search our profile, ShorelineMonterey or the name of the playlist: "[July 2021 Women's Discipleship Community](#)."

*Spotify's search bar is case-sensitive. Be sure to include proper capitalization and spacing!*

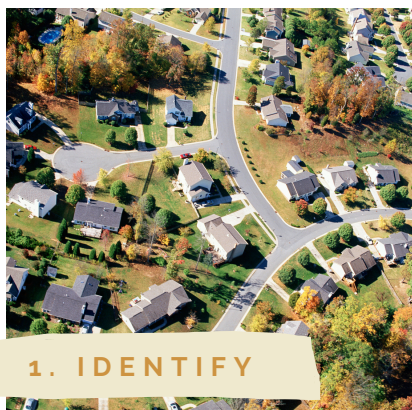
## JOIN OUR PRAYER WALL!

Post a prayer request and join us in praying for the women in our Women's Discipleship Community. This page will be private to just our group!

[www.shoreline.church/prayer-wall](http://www.shoreline.church/prayer-wall)

# THE 6 STEPS

*These simple steps will equip all believers, whether timid or more outgoing, to make a positive impact in your neighborhood or workplace and begin to share the love and light of Jesus Christ. It all starts with these six steps!*



1. IDENTIFY



2. MEET



3. CONNECT



4. LOVE



5. SHARE



6. INVEST

## *Before You Begin...*

Read **Luke 10:25-37**. What is the question Jesus seeks to answer by telling the story of the Good Samaritan? What qualities characterize the type of person Jesus describes? How might we, as modern Christians today, "go and do likewise"?

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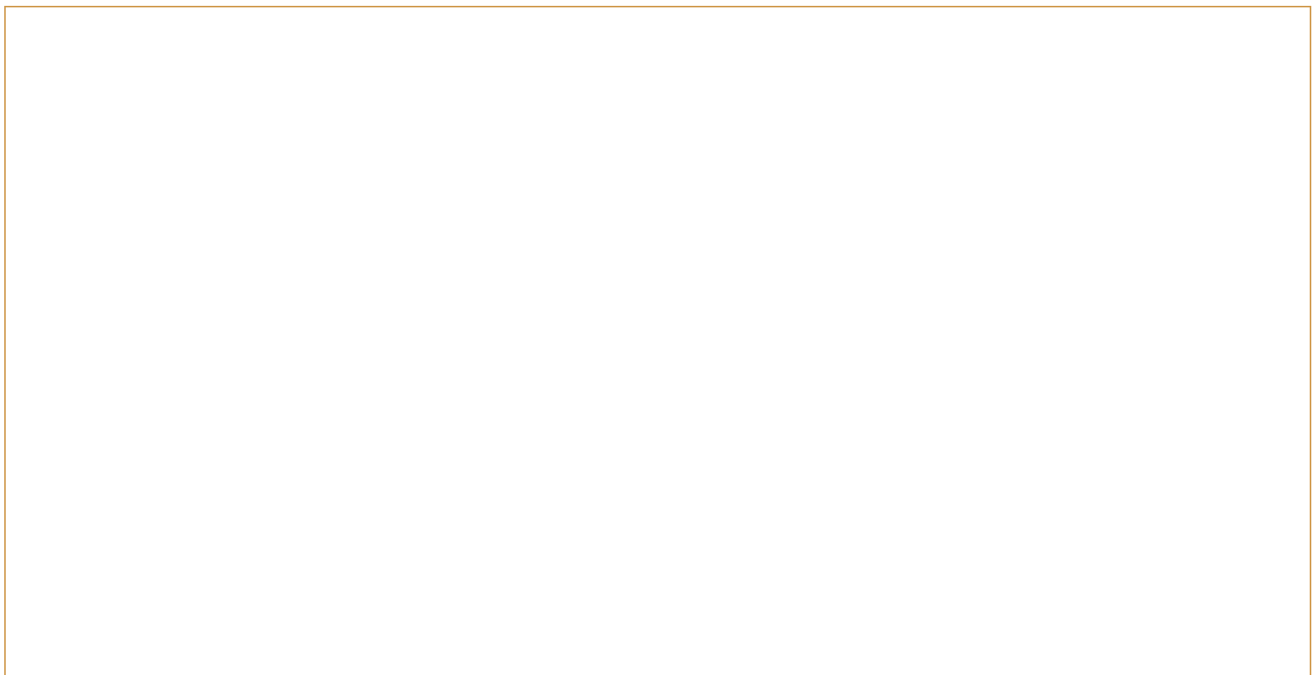
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# STEP ONE: IDENTIFY

Think through the people who live around you. Who do you know? Is there anyone that you know well? Who don't you know? If you have an existing relationship with your physical neighbors, try expanding your circle or following the six steps with your co-workers. In the space below, **sketch your neighborhood**. Whether you are on a shared driveway, subdivision, or in an apartment, you can do this with a little creativity. If you are following these steps with your co-workers, sketch the cubicles or office spaces around you. **Write the names** of these people in your sketch (if known).



## *Prayer Direction*

- Pray for great relationships with your neighbors or co-workers.
- Pray that God will open your heart and mind for creative ways to connect with these people in your sphere of influence.
- Pray for an authentic and natural connection with the people you have named.

## *Going Deeper*

Read *Organic Outreach for Ordinary People* by Kevin Harney, Chapter 1 "The Law of Love"

Read *Organic Outreach for Ordinary People* by Kevin Harney, Chapter 6 "The Unseen Work - Praying for People"

## STEP TWO: MEET

**Select one person** from your sketch in the last step. Start by knocking on this person's door or greeting them as you pass them in the hallway at work. Introduce yourself and begin a casual conversation. Be sure to focus the conversation on the other person by asking intentional questions. In the table below, fill in that person's name and address (or office location). If contact information was exchanged, be sure to add it to your phone or note it below. Reflect on your conversation - was there a specific prayer need that was shared? Brainstorm some questions or topics you might share in your next meeting. Review your notes and commit to **praying for this person by name**.

<i>First &amp; last name:</i>	
<i>Address or office/desk location:</i>	
<i>Brainstorm some intentional questions you might ask in your next meeting. What will you follow-up on? Where might you run into this person again? Be specific and thoughtful.</i>	
<i>If your co-worker or neighbor shared a specific prayer need, record it here and commit to praying for them this week.</i>	

### Prayer Direction

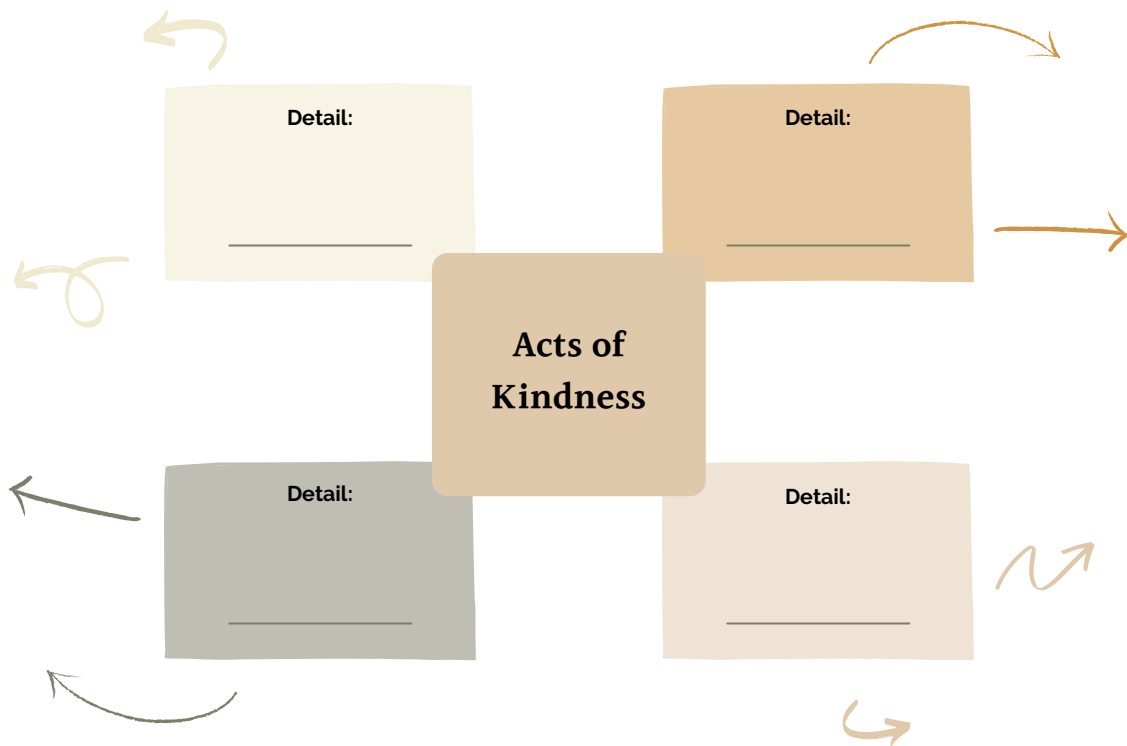
- Before you go out and intentionally connect with your neighbor or co-worker, pray for your own heart to have an attitude of love, compassion, and service, and that you would be able to focus on the other person. Ask God to initiate a natural, meaningful, and productive conversation with this person.

### Going Deeper

Read *Organic Outreach for Families* by Kevin and Sherry Harney, Chapter 11 "Connecting in Organic Ways"

## STEP THREE: CONNECT

Use the table from the previous step to **connect with a small act of kindness**. Reflect on what they have shared about themselves, whether it be a need, interest, or personal detail. Using the mind map below, **brainstorm ways you could encourage, help, or bless this person**. Maybe you could bring over fresh baked goods, wheel in their trash cans, or make some jars of homemade lemonade (using the recipe on the following page). Doing something simple goes a long way towards developing a friendship. Feel free to add more arrows for ideas if you need them!



### *Prayer Direction*

- Continue to pray for your neighbor or co-worker.
- Pray that God will bring to mind a creative way to show a simple act of kindness to this person.
- Pray for the small act of kindness, that your neighbor or co-worker would feel seen, cared for, and loved.

### *Going Deeper*

Read *Organic Outreach for Ordinary People* by Kevin Harney, Chapter 5 "Everyone Plays"

Read *Organic Outreach for Families* by Kevin Harney and Sherry Harney, Chapter 9 "Lighthouse Homes"

# LAVENDER BASIL LEMONADE RECIPE



## Ingredients

- 1 tablespoon dried lavender
- 3/4 cup fresh basil, roughly chopped
- 1/3 - 1/2 cup honey OR coconut sugar OR granulated sugar
- 5 cups of water, divided
- 1 cup freshly squeezed lemon juice
- Ice for serving

## Serving Suggestion

Gather a few mason jars with lids from your home or purchase from your local store. Serve in individual containers for easy transportation and storage. Garnish with a few lemon slices, a sprig of lavender, and basil leaves.

## Directions

PREP TIME: 10 MIN | TOTAL TIME: 30 MIN

In a small saucepan bring the lavender and 2 cups water to a boil. If you are using coconut or granulated sugar, add the sugar to the water as well. Once the water is boiling remove from the heat and add the basil, cover, and steep for 10 minutes.

Meanwhile, squeeze the lemon juice into a tall glass pitcher. Stir in the honey (unless you already added sugar earlier). Stir in 3 cups water. Once the basil has steeped, strain the mixture into the pitcher with the lemon juice. Stir well and then taste. If the lemonade tastes sweet, add water, if it tastes too tart, add honey, 1 tablespoon at a time, until the lemonade is just right for you. Place in the fridge until well chilled.

To serve, pour the lemonade over mason jars of crushed ice. Garnish with lemon slices, lavender sprigs, and basil leaves.



## STEP FOUR: LOVE

As those who have encountered Jesus and have experienced life-change, we live in such a way that reflects this transformation. We cannot help but share our faith with others because it is part of who we are! **Watch this short video** from Kevin Harney about the vision behind organic outreach, and how we might live with a unique passion to share the love and hope of Jesus Christ with those around us.



**"What Is Organic Outreach?"** by Kevin Harney, Organic Outreach International Training Video Resources at [www.organicoutreach.org](http://www.organicoutreach.org).

### *Prayer Direction*

- Continue to pray for your neighbor or co-worker by name.
- Ask that the Lord develop this connection to a deep and meaningful relationship.
- Pray for opportunities to share your faith, either in big or small ways. Pray that your neighbor or co-worker's heart would be open to receive your story.

### *Going Deeper*

Read *Organic Outreach for Ordinary People* by Kevin Harney, Chapter 8 "Incarnational Living"

Read *Organic Outreach for Ordinary People* by Kevin Harney, Chapter 9 "Try Something"

Read *Organic Outreach for Families* by Kevin Harney and Sherry Harney, Chapter 9 "The Home as a Place of Prayer"



## STEP FIVE: SHARE

By the Holy Spirit's leading, it is time to have a spiritual conversation with your neighbor or co-worker. Take your time with this step and do not force it. But also get excited! You have been praying for this opportunity to share the love of Jesus Christ with this person. As the Holy Spirit opens doors, we will encounter times when sharing our testimony is completely natural and organic. While it is unhealthy to try and unload a memorized script on people, we are told to always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks us to give the reason for the hope that we have. Use the space below to **prepare for a potential spiritual conversation** with your neighbor or co-worker.

### *Spiritual Conversation Starters*

As you watch for the Holy Spirit to open doors for spiritual conversations, you might ask some questions that could move the topic to a deeper level of faith. Below are some suggestions to get you started:

- What are some joys you are experiencing in this season of your life?
- What challenges and struggles are you facing?
- What is your personal history when it comes to faith and God?
- What do you believe about God?
- What are your perceptions (good or bad) about Christians?

### *All About Them*

Though you might have one or more stories of how you encountered Jesus, specific moments in your journey might be more or less applicable to certain people. For instance, sharing how you met Jesus in motherhood might connect with an overwhelmed young mom. Or how Jesus comforted you in the midst of grief might resonate with someone who is experiencing a great loss. With your person in mind, **write a short testimony** in a way that might resonate with their life experience.

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## STEP SIX: INVEST

Continue to invest in your neighbor or co-worker and walk with them in their spiritual journey wherever they are. Our hope is that you have developed a friendship that will help your neighbor see the love of Jesus in you, through you and hopefully, one day, in them. This does not just happen on its own, you will need to intentionally develop connections with your neighbors. Over time, these connections could grow into deep, meaningful friendships. Let these six steps become a pattern for your life, living out the mission to help as many people as possible become totally committed to Jesus Christ. Close out this month by reading **Matthew 9:35-38** and **praying this sending prayer** from *Organic Outreach for Ordinary People*:

*Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."*

*Here I am Lord. I have received your good news and it has changed my life. Your love and presence are still transforming me every day. I am ready to go out into the harvest fields of this world and be part of your plan to bring your good news to all people. Give me boldness. Grant me humility. Help me to be ever ready to tell others about the hope you have unleashed in my life. Use me, Lord, to be salt and light today and every day. Amen!*



## MORE RESOURCES

### *Books*

*Organic Outreach for Ordinary People* by Kevin G. Harney

*Organic Outreach for Families* by Kevin G. Harney and Sherry Harney

*Organic Outreach for Churches* by Kevin G. Harney and Sherry Harney

### *Sermons*

*Organic Outreach for Ordinary People*, sermon series by Kevin G. Harney, Shoreline Church

"Week 7: Organic Outreach," message from the *Metrics That Matter* sermon series by Kevin G. Harney, Shoreline Church