Make a Friend! Be a Friend!

PERSONAL TIMELINE EXERCISE



Symbol Timeline

NOTICE: The symbol timeline includes both positive and negative experiences. Painful times, in particular, can lead to **turning points** that teach us lessons and move us to greater commitment or in a new direction.

CREATE YOUR OWN TIMELINE

Create your own symbol timeline with both positive and negative experiences, and at least one turning point. Remember this is not an art contest, so have fun!



FOUR APPROACHES TO EVANGELISM...

IMPOSITIONAL

- Emphasis on message
- Peter preaching at Pentecost (Acts 2:14-41)
- Street corner preaching/handing out tracts
- Strength: speak to masses/quick
- Weakness: overbearing/impersonal

INSTITUTIONAL

- Invitational
- Samaritan woman at well (John 4:28-30)
- Church/Conferences
- Strengths: less threatening
- Weaknesses: no personal witness

INFORMATIONAL

- Emphasis on message
- Paul in Athens (Acts 17:16-34
- Apologetics/tracts
- Strength: intellectual/bridges current beliefs
- Weaknesses: requires education / confrontational

INCARNATIONAL

- Focus on relationships/engagement
- Philip and Nathanael (John 1)
- Missionaries/friends
- Strengths: personal/caring/ promotes vulnerability
- Weaknesses: becomes all about the relationship

"We build bridges of friendship strong enough to bear the weight of theological truth."

(Reggie Joiner, Seven Practices of Effective Ministries)

ASSET MAPPING EXERCISE:

Name three things you are good at doing (cooking, organizing, playing guitar, financial management, etc. Please do not include things like talking, eating, sleeping, caring, etc.)

Name three things you would like to learn how to do or how to do better (same instructions as above)

Name two businesses who know you by name

Name five persons outside of the church with whom you have a relationship

Love Your Neighbor?

Neighbor:

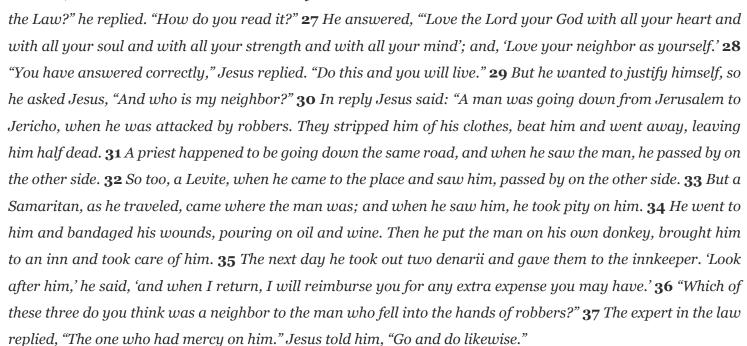
Noun: A person living near or next door to the person referred to

Verb: (of a place or thing) be situated next to or very near

Devotional Reflection

The Parable of the Good Samaritan
Luke 10:25-37, New International Version (NIV)

25 On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" **26** "What is written in



• Laws	
LUWS	
• Traditions	• <u> </u>
• Outcasts	•
• Generosity	•
• Eventone	
• Everyone	0 -
But what if?	
To wind it:	•
we took Jesus at his word?	

LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR EXERCISE:

Family 1	Family 2	Family 3
Family 5	Your Family / Home	Family 4

Last name = 1 point each

First name of each adult in household = 1 point each

First names of children = 1 point each

Occupation of each adult = 2 points each

How long have they lived in current home = 2 points

State in which each adult grew up = 3 points each

A favorite activity for each adult and child = 3 points each

Religious beliefs of each adult = 4 points each

Something you admire about each adult or child = 4 points each

BONUS:

Add **5 points** for each home you have entered Add **25 points** for each family you have had over for a meal

PENALTY:

Subtract **5 points** for each neighbor you would not recognize on sight (away from home)

Missional Communities

A missional community is a group of people, about the size of an extended family, who are united through Christian community around a common service and witness to a particular neighborhood or network of relationships.

The Four Keys to living life missionally...



#1 VISION Why Jesus? Why Church? Why this Church?

#2 Expectation Great Commission Disciples

A life of Hospitality I am curiously drawn to the Christians who graciously accept me as if I belong with them already.

I am called not only to receive, but also to offer God's gracious acceptance to others.

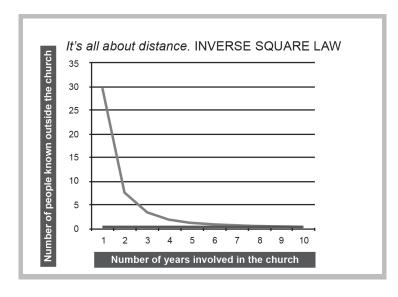
I seek to relate to others both in the church and beyond in ways that reflect God's hospitality to me.

I intentionally seek to build relationships with unchurched people in order to share God's love.

Traditional Vows	Dimensions of Discipleship	Membership Covenant
Prayers	Opening to Jesus/ Obeying Jesus	Participate regularly in a small discipleship group or other accountable discipling relationship.
Presence	A Life of Worship	Participate in weekly worship at least 3 weekends each month unless prevented by illness or travel.
Gifts	A Life of Generosity	Commit to proportional giving to the ministries of this congregation and to moving toward a tithe.
Service	A Life of Service	Serve in some way in the local community (beyond the walls of the church) each month.
Witness	A Life of Hospitality	Invite someone to come with me to church/events at least three times per year and build at least three relationships outside the church to witness the love of Christ.

The Four Keys to living life missionally...

#3 Priority



Measuring and Celebrating

From	То
Fellowship Dinners	Neighborhood Gatherings
Group studies at Church	Book clubs in neighborhood
Fall Festivals	Brought 1st time guest to worship
Prayer Meetings	Started a walking group
Age-appropriate ministries	Supported a neighbor in crisis
Gender-specific programming	Hosted a block party
Community Outreach Events	Leading prayer walks

#4 Training Write a personal testimony

Ideas for getting started

- Welcome newcomers
- Provide neighborhood gatherings
- Adopt a 'lonely person' house-watching service
- · Have a neighborhood movie night
- Support someone in a difficult time
- Create a map/contact list

