**OUT**

**Who is sent to me?**

What it is:

God sends us each day on mission where we live, work, and play.  He also sends people to us; there are no coincidental connections.

How to do it:

Pray each morning that God will bring people across your path for whom you can be the incarnated Christ. Pray each morning that God will give you sensitivity to the Spirit as you encounter people. Reflect briefly at the end of the day; whom did God send to you? Did you meet them in the spirit of Jesus? How might you do better tomorrow?

**Talking about Jesus and the Gospel**

What it is:

1 Peter 3:15 tells us to, “Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.” As we learn to follow Jesus, we need to think about how to tell others about Jesus.

Gospel means good news and how we talk about the good news matters! [Bruxy Cavey](http://www.bruxy.com/) talks about the gospel in 1, 3, and 30 words:

1 Word: Jesus

3 Words: Jesus is Lord

30 Words: The Gospel is the Good News that God has come to us through Christ to show His Love save us from sin share His life and to shut down religion

How to do it:

Practice talking about what the good news of Jesus means in your life with a Christian friend or your missional community. What does it mean for you that Jesus shows us God’s love? That he saves us from sin? That he shares his life with us? That he has shut down religion? What does it mean that Jesus is Lord?

**Throwing a Party**

What it is:

“The Gospel will not be heard until our front doors open, our tables are set, and we practice the art of hospitality, celebration & party!” – Hugh Halter (Happy Hour)

How to do it:

Planning

Open up as much usable space in your home as possible. How many can you accommodate?

Many folks prefer casual dining experiences to sit down experiences.

Pre-party

Do clean the house.

Don’t leave the TV on.

Do have soft music on (refrain from playing Christian music).

Do have candles lit.

Prep your kids for what’s about to happen. Employ their help in hosting.

As people arrive

Turn the porch light on!

Invite a few outgoing guests to come early to be door greeters.

Have drinks & finger foods out. Inviting guests to eat as they arrive reduces awkwardness.

Introduce guests to other guests.

To pray or not to pray? Know your audience. Some will feel like you are trying to trick them.

Offer a warm welcome and a toast. Give directions about the food. Keep the mood light.

Party variations:

Happy Hour – a few simple finger foods and a drink depending on the season

Outdoor gathering around a fire.

Potluck – everyone brings a dish.

Dinner Club – 3-6 couples take turns hosting monthly dinners for a year. No kids! ☺

Brai – all day gathering of friends for brunch and grill out.

-Excerpts taken from “[Happy Hour” by Hugh Halter](http://hughhalter.com/books.htm)

**Know Your Neighbors**

What it is:

Jesus tells us to “love your neighbor as yourself” Mark 12:31. You can’t love your neighbors if you don’t know who they are!

How to do it:

Download and print a [Block Map](http://www.artofneighboring.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/blockmap-1.pdf). Use it to start knowing and remembering who lives around you.

Try and learn your nearest neighbor’s names and occupations. If you can’t, you have somewhere to start in getting to know them!

Once you know your neighbors, start praying for them.

**How to see and meet needs where you live, work and play**

What it is:

Being a missionary! We are called to make disciples of all nations (Matthew 28:19). A big part of making disciples, and our own faith journey, is the process of becoming more aware of the people and needs around us. It takes intentionality of learning about ourselves, the culture that we are in, and creating relationships.

How to do it:

Listen- Spend time in prayer. Ask for the Holy Spirit to open your eyes and ears throughout the day as you interact with friends, coworkers, and neighbors.

Follow- Get to know your neighbors and coworkers. Engage people in conversation and learn. Learn about their work, hobbies, family, and history. As relationships grow, follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit to know how to love those around you. Be aware of the people and needs that God brings to you.

Act- Invite neighbors over for dinner, or take them a meal when they’re sick. Join the Care Portal to help with needs in the community. Participate in community events and make connections with those around you.

**How to Volunteer**

What it is:

IN HUMILITY

God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble. Pr 3:34, Jms 4:6

Before his downfall a man’s heart is proud, but before honor comes humility. Pr 18:12

For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled and the one who humbles himself will be exalted. Lk 14:11

How to do it:

Mindset of a humble volunteer

-I hope I can be helpful. I Cor 10:24; Phil 2:4

-My opinions are not important unless asked for. Rom 12:16

-How can I be most loving? I Cor 13:1-7,

-I need to listen. Jms 1:19

-Our cultures/way of life are different and that’s ok. Rom 12:3

Focus of a humble volunteer

-Me WITH/FOR Them (Servant) Phil 2:3-8

-Hearts of the people with whom they are working I Sam 16:7

-Relationships I Cor 10:32-33

-God’s glory I Cor 10:31

Attitude of a humble volunteer

-Ok with letting things go Ps 34:14

-Forgives easily Eph 4:32; Mt 6:14-15

-Ok with not being understood/heard Mt 12:19

-Does not judge others Mt 7:1-5

-Looks for truth I Cor 13:6

Mindset of a proud volunteer

-They need my help.

-My opinions are truth and they need to know them.

-How can I get them to be more like me?

-I already know.

-My culture/way of life is the “right” way.

Focus of a proud volunteer

-Me VS Them (Super hero)

-Circumstances of the people with whom they are working

-Getting things done

-My glory

Attitude of a proud volunteer

-Needs to be right

-Holds grudge

-Needs to be understood/heard

-Judgmental

-Points out all the wrongs

**Blessing in Secret**

What it is:

In Matthew 6:1-4, Jesus describes the discipline of giving to the poor. There is an expectation of secrecy or at very least not self-promotion:

“Be careful not to practice your righteousness in front of others to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven.

“So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.”

How to do it:

Practice the discipline of secrecy in the following way, knowing that you gave this act of service just for Jesus to help someone.

* Try writing an encouraging note without signing the note
* Try sending money to someone without signing in the card or note.
* Pay the toll for the person behind you at a toll both.
* Pick up the check for someone in a restaurant on your way out
* Ding dong Serve- Ring the doorbell, run and leave cookies, money or groceries!

**Who is my one?**

What it is:

When we understand God’s heart for humanity it can all seem a little overwhelming. Are we supposed to meet every need we see all of the time? Most of us can’t operate that way and need to simplify how we try to care for the world around us. This is a practice to help bring focus to the place and person God is calling us to love intentionally.

How to do it:

Start praying about the place God is calling you to. It could be your workplace, your neighborhood, a local school, or anywhere you have relationships and can spend time regularly. As God makes the place clear to you, begin to ask God for the one person you should be reaching out to. As you begin to hear who that person is, share it with a few people you trust so they also can begin praying for you and that person.

**BELLS – 5 Missional Habits**

What it is:

From Michael Frost’s [Five Habits of Highly Missional People](http://www.rupertsland.ca/wp-content/uploads/The-5-Habits-of-Highly-Missional-People-11.pdf)

There was a time when church bells could be heard ringing out over the community alerting people to God’s activity. While this isn’t as common as it once was, these simple habits can help transform our lives into everyday reminders that God’s Kingdom is coming here on earth as it is in heaven.

How to do it:

**B**less: I will bless at least three people this week, including one person who is not yet a disciple of Jesus.

Blessing may include: Words of affirmation, Intentional acts of kindness or Gifts.

**E**at: I will eat three (or set your own number) meals this week with others, including one person who is not yet a disciple of Jesus.

**L**isten to the Spirit: I will spend time this week listening to the voice of the Holy Spirit.

Set aside a designated time. Eliminate distraction. Let God in. Follow God’s promptings.

**L**earn Christ: I will spend time this week learning Christ.

Study the Gospels and become a student of Jesus.

**S**ent: I will spend some time this week journaling about the ways I partnered with God to alert people to the reign of Christ.

How did I create beauty? How did you work for justice? How did I bring reconciliation?