



Discussion Questions and Practices

Discussion Questions

1. Jeremiah told Israel to “build houses, settle down, plant gardens” while in exile (Jer. 29:4–7). How does this challenge the way we sometimes think about being “in the world but not of it” (Phil. 3:20; Rom. 12:2)?
2. Jesus consistently showed He was “for” people — the hungry, the sick, the grieving, the guilty. What would it look like for you to embody God’s “for-ness” in your neighbourhood or workplace?
3. Tim Keller once said, “*We must be so sacrificially loving that the people around us say, ‘I don’t agree with them, but I shudder to think of this city without them.’*” What would need to change in our community for people to feel this way about the church?
4. In the parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25–37), Jesus flips the question from “*Who is my neighbour?*” to “*Who was the neighbour?*” How does shifting the focus from *who* to *how* reshape the way we think about being “for” our community?

Spiritual Practices

1. **The Name Practice** – This week, intentionally learn the name of at least one neighbour, co-worker, or classmate you don't know well. Write it down and begin to pray for them daily.
2. **The Table Practice** – Invite someone from your neighbourhood, workplace, or school into your home for a meal, coffee, or even a simple conversation on the porch. Practice presence without an agenda.
3. **The Prayer Walk** – Set aside 20 minutes to walk through your community, praying quietly for the people, homes, and businesses you pass. Ask God to open your eyes to needs around you.
4. **The Generosity Challenge** – Identify one practical way to bless a neighbour this week (fix something, share food, offer childcare, help with a task). Do it as a quiet act of love, not a project.