

UPSIDE NEED GOSPEL

newlife link

Better to Give than Receive - Acts 20:35

March 11, 2018

Pray

1. Pray a prayer of thanksgiving for people who have given their time, space, or abilities to help you become who you are today. Give thanks for their unconditional gifts.
2. Ask God for a spirit of gratitude and giving. Pray for guidance on who and where you can invest in those around you.

Action

1. Read Matthew 5:42-48 in different translations. How would you describe the meaning of "live generously" to a friend.
2. Discuss ways in which you can help to create others. Brainstorm ways to be generous with your:
 - Space: where are opportunities to fellowship and worship with people who are different from you?
 - Time: when will you have opportunity to invest into someone else's life by being present with them?
 - Gifts: what do you have to offer so that others can be who God created them to be?

Talk

1. Choose one neighbour or person in your circle of impact who you can thank for what they have done for you and in your life. Write them a note, or have a conversation with them to let them know how they have been a part of making you who you are today.
2. Choose at least one of the ideas that you came up with in the Action section above and pray for opportunity to invest in a neighbour. Look for the opportunity and seize it, preparing yourself to give unconditionally with no expectation of reward or payment. Be prepared to explain why you are willing to give unconditionally when a neighbour asks for the motivation behind your actions.

Neighbourhood Challenge

For the six weeks to Easter we are in a church wide focus on "living Upside Down in the Neighbourhood." Living like Jesus is about living differently, or "upside down" to reflect the gospel. You are encouraged to take up this Neighbourhood Challenge as a small group and see how God works in and through you! Each week we'll be commissioned as a congregation to be on mission in our neighbourhoods, and each week when we gather we'll invite people to offer a mini "mission report."