



Sermon Series:
Baseball & BBQ's
The Art of Neighbouring
Speaker: Tim Voth
Date: May 12, 2024




GROUP GUIDE

Connect (25 min)

Ice Breaker: How long have you lived in your neighbourhood and what is one story you have of a good encounter or an awkward encounter?

Message Discussion (35 min)

1. The main task of your life group this week is to take time to fill out this chart and then discuss it. So print off enough of these so that each person (or couple) has one and set a timer and take 5 minutes to fill it out and then discuss afterwards.

a.	a.	a.
b.	b.	b.
c.	c.	c.
a.		a.
b.		b.
c.		c.
a.	a.	a.
b.	b.	b.
c.	c.	c.

2. How do you feel after this assessment? Excited, guilty, discouraged, empowered? How might the idea found in Zechariah 3:1-7 help you feel a fresh start?
3. How does this exercise help you in your vision for your neighbourhood? Read Zechariah 3:10. Does that vision for your neighbours sound appealing to you? How could your home be a place of rest and nourishment?
4. Read Zechariah 4:10 (many translations say it differently) with the main point being “don’t look down on small things!” Take time to talk through some of the “small things” that you could do in your neighbouring.
5. What are some of the hindrances to getting to know your neighbours names this Summer and how could you overcome them?
6. Tim shared some of the strategies for moving your relationships with your neighbours from acquaintance to relationship: ask questions, care, ask for help. Which of those have worked for you so far? Which would you be willing to try more of?

Application & Prayer (20 min)

Praying Together: Pray that God would help each of you take your neighbouring relationships to the next stage this Summer. If there is a particularly challenging neighbour, pray for them.



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LEADER GUIDE

Connect (25 min)

Ice Breaker: How long have you lived in your neighbourhood and what is one story you have of a good encounter or an awkward encounter?

Message Discussion (35 min)

1. The main task of your life group this week is to take time to fill out this chart and then discuss it. So print off enough of these so that each person (or couple) has one and set a timer and take 5 minutes to fill it out and then discuss afterwards.

a.	a.	a.
b.	b.	b.
c.	c.	c.
a.		a.
b.		b.
c.		c.
a.	a.	a.
b.	b.	b.
c.	c.	c.

2. How do you feel after this assessment? Excited, guilty, discouraged, empowered? How might the idea found in Zechariah 3:1-7 help you feel a fresh start? **Even if we have messed up and either done what we shouldn't or haven't done what we should, we can be washed clean and given a fresh start.**
3. How does this exercise help you in your vision for your neighbourhood? Read Zechariah 3:10. Does that vision for your neighbours sound appealing to you? How could your home be a place of rest and nourishment?
4. Read Zechariah 4:10 (many translations say it differently) with the main point being "don't look down on small things!" Take time to talk through some of the "small things" that you could do in your neighbouring.
5. What are some of the hindrances to getting to know your neighbours names this Summer and how could you overcome them?
6. Tim shared some of the strategies for moving your relationships with your neighbours from acquaintance to relationship: ask questions, care, ask for help. Which of those have worked for you so far? Which would you be willing to try more of? **Feel free to share other strategies that have worked well for you as well.**

Application & Prayer (20 min)

Praying Together: Pray that God would help each of you take your neighbouring relationships to the next stage this Summer. If there is a particularly challenging neighbour, pray for them.

(If helpful, break into groups of Men/Women or 3-4 people. I would also recommend not simply listing many disconnected things from far removed aspects of your life, friends, or family, but focusing on those things in your own lives that need prayer that come out of this message or that come out of your 'highs and lows', and if necessary a few brief requests for other things going on)

Resources

Hyperlinked Scripture:

[Zechariah 2 \(Assessment - measuring line\)](#), [Zechariah 3 \(High Priest cleansing\)](#), [Zechariah 4 \(Small Beginnings\)](#), [Proverbs 27:10 \(Better a neighbour that is close\)](#), [Proverbs 27:14 \(Whoever tries to bless a neighbour...\)](#)

Resources:

[The Art of Neighbouring: Book \(Amazon\)](#), [Sermon Podcast](#)