Message Notes

Practical Love: 4. Like A Good Neighbour (Acts 1.1-11)

- 1. Host meetings in <u>restaurants</u>.
- 2. Take an event from the church building out to a <u>neighbourhood</u>.
- 3. Serve the <u>community</u>.
- 4. Meet with a school principal.
- 5. Host all LifeConnect Groups in homes.
- 6. Go on a prayer walk.
- 7. Meet with <u>municipal</u> leaders.
- 8. Define the congregation's unique impact.
- 9. Invite a neighbour for <u>dinner</u>.

LifeConnect Group Discussion Questions

- What do the disciples think will happen when they receive the Holy Spirit?
- How does their idea of the kingdom differ from Jesus' (vv 7-8)?
- As a disciple, what is the impact on you of Jesus' words (v 8)? Of his departure (v 9)? Of the angels' promise (v 11)?
- How do you feel about taking the church outside the building? Scared? Excited? Something else?
- Here are some innovative community outreach ideas from a church leader named Brad Bridges. Which of these could you undertake? Which could we undertake as a church? Discuss them.
 - O Serve as a coach or umpire in a youth sports league. Donate any profits to a local food bank, a needy family involved in the league, or donate straight back into the league.
 - o Setup a meeting with a member of the school board.
 - O Create a selfie wall at your church.
 - O Visit a local grocery store and buy groceries for 10 people a month.
 - o Get a new hobby that involves the community.
 - O Plant a garden and get to know the local home and garden department specialists.
 - O Shadow a church member at an event (youth sports, civic service club, etc.) or have lunch with her/him at work.
 - o Serve in the local food bank.
 - o Create welcome home baskets for any new family moving into the community.
 - O Listen to people when you meet them in the community. (Listen 3 times more than you talk.)
 - O Take cookies to your local fire department and bring your kids.
 - o LifeConnect Group leaders: take your group out to do one of the ideas on this list.
 - o Join a local gym and only exercise in classes.
 - o Tip well, and never leave your business card or a tract.
 - O Always plan to arrive at events early, so you never arrive late or drive like a lunatic on the way.
 - Organize a parent's night out with free childcare and a full kids program. (Make the event at least 3-5 hours.)