



MEET SAMARIA NEIGHBORS THROUGH PERSONS OF PEACE

🕒 *15-30 Minutes is the recommended minimum for the time of meeting our neighbors. The full time will vary for each church depending on the logistics of going from the gathering and debriefing afterwards.*

PURPOSE: 🎯 Go with Persons of Peace to meet people from a “Samaria” in your area.

This Sunday, we will follow up with our journey to engage with our Samaria neighbors. After meeting Persons of Peace and discussing how we can start to build friendships with people in the contexts they represent, it is time to take those first steps. It takes some preparation and initiative to see every church member start connecting with the hidden and hurting in our area, and it is more than worth it. This is the process of church activation. This is the process of forging paths that lead to community transformation.

We will need to prepare small group leaders ahead of time so that the vision, process, and logistics are clear. Honestly, things don't always go according to plan, but with hearts of faith-filled availability, God will use every circumstance for His glory. This Sunday, let's see every member take their next step towards seeing Jesus in need and embracing Him where He's at (Matthew 25).

SETUP: ⚙️ *Have Persons of Peace meet with small group leaders ahead of time. Have them talk through the vision, process, and logistics of the time.*

Vision: “We are taking the first relational step in God’s great plan for reconciliation, redemption, and renewal of our city. It starts with a simple first meeting.”

Process: Each small group leader will be prepared to lead the group through a vision briefing at the church gathering before going, they will give instructions on what to do during the time of connecting, and will lead a short reflection afterwards. Each of these steps are vital for a healthy experience.

Logistics: Transportation will be the main key. Once established, this becomes a lot easier for future visits, but deciding ahead of time between walking, using the small group’s vehicles, or public transportation is very important to plan a smooth visit. Other logistics may need to be decided ahead of time as well depending on the meeting.



Because of small groups going to other locations, we strongly recommend this Sunday having the Samaria meeting replace all of or the majority of the morning’s teaching. Preparing a short exhortation combined with the small group leader’s briefing would make the morning’s Samaria meeting memorable and meaningful.



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SETUP: ⚙️

Alert the congregation ahead of time about the logistical difference for this Sunday. We are intentionally preparing everyone through this step-by-step process for doing something new. Letting people know beforehand will make sure they can be dressed appropriately and know what to expect with timeframe/transportation.

INSTRUCTIONS:

🟡 Organize Members 🟠 Leader Instructs 🟢 Members Practice 🟣 Reflect and Report



1 Have everyone break into their small groups.



2 In one minute, share God's heart for us to connect with the "Samarias" of our neighborhood and city.



3 For 5 minutes, have the small group leader start briefing their groups on the vision for the time and what to expect when going.



4 Small group leaders brief small groups.



5 Pray and send out groups.



6 Small groups are sent to different locations to meet the people they've been praying for.



7 Small groups spend time meeting people and making new friends.



8 Small group leader leads group through debriefing time after meeting. They should ask reflective questions such as:

1. Who did you meet?
2. What did you learn?
3. Can we spend time again with our new friends? How?



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Have one person from every small group (maybe small group leader) share a brief summary on what happened during their time of meeting new friends with the church leadership.

LEADERSHIP REFLECTIONS:

- ❓ As you process the steps taken by your congregation, how do you see God's activation process in the lives of the members?
- ❓ As you process the follow up responses, how do you see God leading next steps to bless the people and places in our Judea?