

SESSION 2: WELCOME MAT (CHAPTERS 5–9)

I CAN DO THIS

1. Discuss ways you will meet or have met your neighbors using your gifts and in your context.
2. How can Shauna's family motto, "Be you. Don't hide you. Be you," be that push you need to get outside of yourself and your home?
3. Pray this: *God, we are Your people called by Your name. We believe You have called us here and have a purpose for our lives right where we live and work. We know the enemy wants nothing more than to keep us segregated and on different sides. We say, "No more!" We declare together that this community, this land, is Yours. We confess our prejudices, assumptions, and wrong thinking. We invite Your love into this community, into this church, into our hearts. Change us. Give us a love for this place and the people. Because it's no longer me and them. It's profoundly us. In Jesus' name, amen.*
4. Discuss ways the church can have the largest welcome mat in town. Make a fresh commitment to talk to new and different people at church.
5. Who in your community needs the church to reach out and befriend them?
6. Pray for the local church.

PARTICIPANT HOMEWORK

1. Name your neighbors.

2. Write out your commitment to help be the welcome at church.