



## **B.L.E.S.S Workshop**

### **#1 Begin with PRAYER**

Sunday: Highlights

*Why Begin With Prayer?*

|    |                                       |
|----|---------------------------------------|
| \$ | <u>Jesus</u> begins with Prayer       |
| \$ | <u>Neighboring</u> begins with Prayer |
| \$ | <u>Naming</u> begins with Prayer      |
| \$ | <u>Miracles</u> begin with Prayer     |
| \$ | <u>Blessings</u> begin with Prayer    |
| \$ | <u>Love</u> begins with Prayer        |

Sunday: *"What We Didn't Say"*

#### Table Group Discussion

1) Which of the Six Why Begin With Prayer? points spoke to you most strongly? Why?

2) What was your biggest take-away from Sunday?

*“To Bless Your Neighbor,  
Jesus Invites You To Begin With Prayer”*  
(B.L.E.S.S., Dave Ferguson and Jon Ferguson, Salem Books, 2021)

“God uses prayer to change us,  
and then God uses us to change our world.”

Reasons We Don't Pray

\$ *“I don't know how to pray.”*

\$ *“I'm too busy.”*

\$ *“I doubt it works.”*

Table Group Discussion

[Report back to the Large Group.]

***Come up with 3 or more other reasons we don't pray?***

5 Simple B.L.E.S.S. Tools

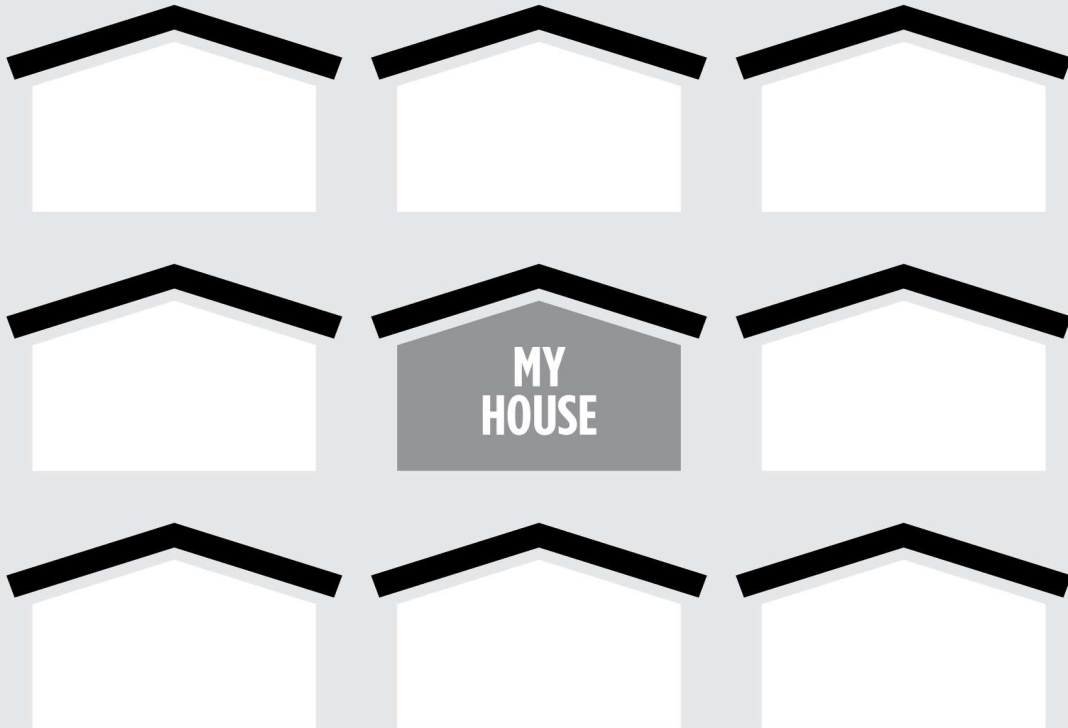
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|------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Plan    | When? Where?                                    |
| 2. Prepare | How, God?                                       |
| 3. Places  | Surroundings: <i>Where will I be, today?</i>    |
| 4. People  | <i>How can I be a blessing to my neighbors?</i> |

*“Following Jesus isn't meant to be comfortable;  
it's meant to be life-changing.”*

**\*Question: *What is your response/reaction to that statement?***

# NEIGHBOR GRAPHIC

WHO'S MY NEIGHBOR?



Getting to know the **people next door.**

*(Courtesy of Jay Pathak & Dave Runyon, The Art of Neighboring)*

## TABLE GROUP ACTIVITY

### Discuss It

1. *What “neighbor group(s)” will you use?  
Your address? Your work? Social Group? Etc...?*
2. *How do we make sure this is a Chart of Blessing, not a Chart of Shame?*

### Do It

Fill in your Neighbor Graphic. You might want to leave a blank spot or two to add later in this series. Start with Level 1 for each box. Then, go back to level 2 and level 3 as time/space allows.

Level 1          Name(s)

Write down their names. First and last?

Level 2          Relevant Info

Write down relevant information you have gathered from speaking with them.

Level 3          In-depth Info

Write down information for each that you only know through connecting with them. Family, career, motivations, priorities.

### Share It

Once everybody has completed the neighborhood chart, go around the table group and share what you know or do not know about “Your Neighbors,” right now.

### Close In Prayer