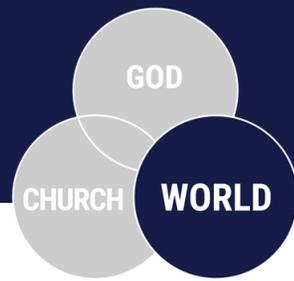


AWARENESS

I see the needs of the world and respond to them.



Luke 4:18-19 *“The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoner and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, 19 to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”*

Jesus quotes the old testament in ways that highlight God’s attentiveness to the needs of individuals and communities. We are created to similarly be aware of the needs or difficulties of those around us (strangers and those close to us).

Rhythm practices:

Shift Perspectives

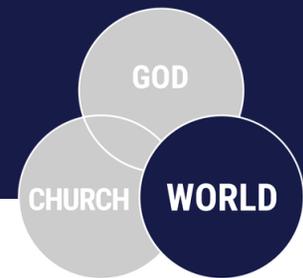
- Ask God to help you see others around you with *His* eyes.
- When you see a need, ask the Holy Spirit how you could respond to it.
- Pay attention to what issues in the world touch your heart, and which ones you ignore, excuse or explain, and ask God for His heart on the subject.

Awareness Conversations

- Ask local public servants what the most demanding needs in your community are and how you can get involved
- Speak to family, friends, church folks about the issues you are passionate or unfamiliar with and discuss what you think God’s attitude is about the subject.
- Invite someone who is in need or dealing with a social issue God is drawing your attention to, to share with you what their life is like and what would be the most helpful to them in their circumstance.

ENGAGEMENT

I welcome other into my life and intentionally participate in theirs.



1 Thessalonians 2:8-9 Instead, we were like young children among you, Just as a nursing mother cares for her children, 8 so we cared for you. Because we loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well.

Paul spends a great deal of his writings to the early church encouraging unity in the church and openness, generosity and blessings to those in the community the church exists among.

Rhythm Practices:

Getting to know folks

- Meet your neighbors, learn their names, remember their names. Engagement starts with showing respect, and knowing peoples names and using their names is a huge sign of respect..
- When you see a neighbor outside this spring, walk over and have a 3-5 minute conversation. Try to be sensitive to their response and disengage if they are giving signs of discomfort.
- Ask about family, health, summer plans, etc...

Connecting

- Creatively invite people into your yard, your home and your personal life.
- Driveway Donuts - Choose a couple hours on an upcoming Saturday, invite your neighbors with a written invite and on the day put out donuts, coffee and chairs and just talk.
- Host a pot luck or open house with appetizers.
- Plan to attend a community activity and invite your neighbors. (concert, sporting event, school activity, etc...)