

Mission Guide

Building a strategy to display and declare the gospel as a community group to a pocket of people here in Boston.

Gospel. Community. Mission.

We Are Missionary Servants

Discovering How to Live as Servant Missionaries Sent as Disciples to Make Disciples.

Missionaries – We are Holy Spirit-filled missionaries sent as disciples to make disciples.

God's family is also sent like the Son by the Spirit to proclaim the good news of the kingdom – the gospel – and to fulfill the commission of Jesus. A "Missional" community is more than a bible study or a small group that cares for other believers. A Missional community is made up of Spirit-led and Spirit-filled people who radically reorient their lives together for the mission of making disciples of a particular people and place where this is a gospel gap (no consistent gospel witness). This means people's schedule, resources and decisions are now collectively built around reaching people together. Through this section, we seek to discover how we will commit ourselves as disciples who make disciples in the power of the Holy Spirit. [Matthew 3:16-4:1/John 20:21 / Acts 1:8 / Acts 13:2]

Servants – We are servants of Jesus who serve Him be serving others.

For Christians, Jesus is Lord and they are his Servants. A missional community serves those around them as though there are serving Jesus. In doing so, they give a foretaste of what life will be like under the rule and reign of Jesus Christ. Living as servants to the King who serve others as he served, presents a tangible witness to Jesus' kingdom and the power of the gospel to change lives. A missional community serves in such a way that it demands a Gospel explanation – lives that cannot be explained in any other way than by the Gospel of the Kingdom of Jesus. In this section, we will discover how we will tangibly demonstrate the impact of the gospel in service to King Jesus to those we are called to reach. (Matt. 20:25K28; Jn. 13:1K17; Phil. 2:5K11; 1 Pet. 2:16)

We Are Missionary Servants – Guide

Prayerfully work through these questions as disciples preparing for mission.

1. Which people group (pocket of people) in Brighton will our CG focus our care and gospel intentionality towards in obedience to Jesus' command to make disciples of all nations?

- Strategy & Frequency Example: Colborne / Aberdeen Area Our neighbors who live right around us specifically Colborne Place Apartments. <u>Brighton Main Streets</u> Roughly 100 Locally Owned/Operated Shops & Restaurants. <u>Brighton High School</u> A local school in partnership with Brighton Main Streets.
- Your CG Strategy & Frequency:

2. In what places should we regularly hang out in order to build relationships with those we want to reach?

- Strategy & Frequency Example: Participate in the local events, festivals, parades and celebrations of your neighborhood (Brighton Main Streets Facebook Pg.), become a regular a local park/pool/gym/YMCA. Frequent local shops/restaurants/barber/library and get to know the staff and regulars, go to the same coffee shop/market/convenience store and get to know employees and regulars. Host fun social gatherings/house parties and invite our friends and neighbors into them. As a CG we seek to life regular rhythms of life (eating, playing, working etc.) with these people and places at least 2x a week.
- Your CG Strategy & Frequency:

3. How will we hangout and intentionally build relationships with those God is sending us to?

- Strategy & Frequency Example:
 - <u>Fall/Winter:</u> As a CG, we have agreed to all become members of the YMCA and take 1 class (either for our kids or ourselves to build relationships with other kids, families, coaches and class facilitators). We will also frequent Joyce Playground and McKinney playground to build relationships to other families. We seek to eat at Jim's Deli, Los Amigo's & Fuel in order to build relationships with employees, store owners.
 - In the summer, we seek to Host Monthly Block Parties or a Free Community Movie Night for Brighton. We seek to utilize mission teams from partner churches to lead a community Kids Summer Adventure Week or Host a free soccer camp for kids in the community.
 - O <u>During the Rest of the Year:</u> We seek to host a watch parties to watch a movie or sports game together. And especially go to the local bar and watch the sports game. Some of us will play pick-up basketball every other week at the YMCA or local park. Invite neighbors to Red Sox game or fun outing in the city. Every 3-4 months look at the calendar and plan for the next 3-4 months of how to invest in our community and those who we are called.
- Your CG Strategy & Frequency:

4. How often will we try to eat with others we are trying to reach?

- Strategy & Frequency Example: As individuals in our CG, we commit to 2x a month inviting a non-Christian friend from our "pocket of people" in the neighborhood over to a meal or out to a meal. in additional we seek to invite them to our previously states "2x a month CG hangouts" and "1x a month community service our outreach events".
- Your CG Strategy & Frequency:

5. What specifically will we do so that the people to whom we are sent will hear the gospel this year?

- **Learn:** Ask open ended questions about their personal faith background and how they came to believe as they currently do. If they claim no beliefs learn how they arrived at that conclusion.
- **Learn:** about their view on Jesus, Christianity, Christians. What do they believe about our faith? What reasons might they have for opposing or rejecting faith in Jesus/God?
- **Share:** your story of how you came to trust in the claims, life, death, & resurrection of Jesus. Share the gospel story with them.
- **Explore:** Invite them to further explore their beliefs with you. There are numerous ways to do this: Dinners, Coffee Conversation, Life Explored through CoaH, Books/Articles, Community Group, Sunday Morning Gathering, hanging out in general.
- Your CG Strategy & Frequency:
- **6.** How will we bless those we are being sent to in word or deed? (Think about: What specific ways, projects service areas or events can we do or get involved in to demonstrate the restorative work of the Kingdom of God in our area. How will we bless those who are disconnected or under-resourced (orphans, widows, poor) among the people we are sent to?
 - Strategy & Frequency Example: As a CG, we commit to hosting an event or serving our "people group" at least 1x a month. We also commit to inviting our non-Christian friends from our "people group" over for our 2x a month "CG Hangouts". We also see to meet needs that arise for our pockets of people such as: offer to pick-up groceries for neighbors, Back-to-School Supplies for kids for Brighton High School, organize a job Fair for low income housing complex, provide T-Passes for individuals in need, Movie Nights in Brighton Common, Welcome Package for New Residents, Cook-Out/Block Party, Gift Cards / Encouragement for Support Staff at low income apartment complexes.
 - Your CG Strategy & Frequency:

- **7. How will we engage in celebrating with the people group God is sending us to?** (Also think about: What celebrations are missing, where can we bring the "better wine", or where can we bring the "servant towel" to the party?
 - Examples: Friends-Giving Dinner, 4th of July Fireworks at the Esplanade. Back-to-School Blast for a local school, Summer Kick-Off for apartment complex, Christmas Party, Halloween [Truck or Treat], Birthdays of friends, neighbors, store owners we get to know, Labor-Day or Memorial Day cookout. The local non-profit "Brighton Main Streets" hosts events for the neighborhood to promote better business, community and family. During the Christmas Tree lighting in Oak Square we could provide cookies and hot chocolate for attenders
 - Your CG Strategy & Frequency:

8. How will we commit to praying for those God is sending us to?

- **Examples:** Create list of relationships we have with non-Christians. Pray for them each Thursday in personal devotions. Pray for them as the Spirit prompts. Pray during weekly Community Group or a Smaller Group pray for specific names.
- Your CG Strategy & Frequency:
- 9. How will we intentionally serve/share what we have with one another and the church as a whole (Think about your time, talents, finances, resources etc.)
 - One another Ex: We will ensure that each of us has a well-thought-out budget with the ability to give generously to the church and our community's mission. We will all share in providing for our weekly meal and needs for each other as they arise. We can provide child care/support for those in need to have date nights or go away on short weekend trips.
 - The Church Ex: We will serve together on an every other week rotation for set-up or tear-down at our weekly Worship Gatherings. We will also assess our gifting's/abilities/needs in the church, to determine how else we can serve the local church (elders, deacons, CG Leaders, CoaH Kids, Hospitality, Worship Team etc).
 - Your CG Strategy & Frequency:

10. What steps should each of us take this year to grow as disciples who make disciples?

- Ex: Reading Center Church by Tim Keller to better think through engaging the city in the gospel.
- Your CG Strategy & Frequency:

Additional Questions You Will Want to Consider:

- 1. What do we know about what this people group believes? What might their actions say they believe? What storyline do they live by?
- 2. Where do their beliefs line up with God's grand redemptive story? Where do the differ?
- 3. What might be some barriers to them understanding the gospel message?
- 4. What are some opportunities we have to proclaim and demonstrate the gospel in way that would be relevant to them? What would good news look like to these friends?

52 Ways: To Live Out Our Identity As MISSIONARIES

- 1. Have a game night (yard games outside, or board games inside)
- 2. Host a sports game watching party
- 3. Host a coffee and dessert night
- 4. Organize and host a ladies night (out in the city, at your house, at the bar etc)
- 5. Start a guys night at your local pub/eatery
- 6. Host a movie night and discussion afterwards
- 7. Walk your dog regularly around the same time/place, frequent the local dog park,
- 8. Pass out baked goods (fresh bread, cookies, brownies, etc.)
- 9. Do a food drive or coat drive in winter and get neighbors involved
- 10. Grow a garden and give out extra produce to neighbors
- 11. Start a weekly open meal night in your home
- 12. Do a summer BBQ every Friday night and invite others to contribute
- 13. Create a block/ street email and phone contact list for safety
- 14. Start a walking/running group in the neighborhood
- 15. Start hosting a play date weekly for other stay at home parents
- 16. Cook extra food and give it to a neighbor
- 17. Buy an extra dozen donuts and give them to a neighbor
- 18. Organize an effort for neighbors to help take care of elderly in neighborhood
- 19. If you have a skill, let neighbors know that you can use it to help them for free
- 20. Collect good will store items and offer to take them to goodwill
- 21. Throw a July 4th block party
- 22. Start a neighborhood-apartment complex Facebook/Twitter/Google + group
- 23. Ask longtime residents to help you learn about the neighborhood
- 24. Offer to babysit neighbors kids so they can have a date night
- 25. Find out your neighbors birthdays and take them a card and baked goods on it
- 26. Setup a meet your neighbors night with drinks
- 27. Ask your landlord, apartment complex, neighbors if they need help with anything
- 28. Host a regular Saturday afternoon brunch potluck
- 29. Start a regular ultimate Frisbee game in your city.
- 30. Take the kids to story time at your local library.
- 31. Let your kids play in the city sports leagues.

- 32. Invite a neighbor to a local sporting event
- 33. Be a part of your local genealogical society
- 34. Tip generously at your regular restaurant spots
- 35. Participate in local events, festivals, celebrations, etc to build relationships
- 36. Attend your local High Schools sporting events
- 37. Be a regular with your kids at the same playscape/restaurant during the day.
- 38. Frequent a live music night at your local coffee shop or bar.
- 39. Make a routine of taking the family to a evening recreation spot (pool, jump zone, etc.).
- 40. Find a local philosophy/theology discussion group and become a regular participant.
- 41. Find a baking meet up group and be a part of their activities.
- 42. Go to the same hair stylist/barber and get to know them.
- 43. When you can, support local businesses and get to know the people in that business.
- 44. Visit your cities visitors center to learn about the history
- 45. Cook out at your local park and invite the people there to eat with you
- 46. Join a city softball, soccer, football, basketball league.
- 47. Find your local bank representative and get to know them
- 48. Be a regular at your local farmers market
- 49. Take a regular stroll at your local park.
- 50. Have gospel discussions in public places where others can listen in.
- 51. Frequent the same convenience store and make an effort to get to know the workers there.
- 52. Watch sporting events at the same local sports bar/restaurant in your city.

30 Simple Ways: To Be Missional In Your Workplace

- 1. Instead of eating lunch alone, intentionally eat with other co-workers and learn their story.
- 2. Get to work early so you can spend some time praying for your co-workers and the day ahead.
- 3. Make it a daily priority to speak or write encouragement when someone does good work.
- 4. Bring extra snacks when you make your lunch to give away to others.
- 5. Bring breakfast (donuts, burritos, cereal, etc.) once a month for everyone in your department.
- 6. Organize a running/walking group in the before or after work.
- 7. Have your missional community/small group bring lunch to your workplace once a month.
- 8. Create a regular time to invite coworkers over or out for drinks.
- 9. Make a list of your co-workers birthdays and find a way to bless everyone on their birthday.
- 10. Organize and throw office parties as appropriate to your job.
- 11. Make every effort to avoid gossip in the office. Be a voice of thanksgiving not complaining.
- 12. Find others that live near you and create a car pool.
- 13. Offer to throw a shower for a co-worker who is having a baby.
- 14. Offer to cover for a co-worker who needs off for something.
- 15. Start a regular lunch out with co-workers (don't be selective on the invites).
- 16. Organize a weekly/monthly pot luck to make lunch a bit more exciting.
- 17. Ask someone who others typically ignore if you can grab them a soda/coffee while you're out.
- 18. Be the first person to greet and welcome new people.
- 19. Make every effort to know the names of co-workers and clients along with their families.
- 20. Visit coworkers when they are in the hospital.
- 21. Bring sodas or work appropriate drinks to keep in your break room for coworkers to enjoy. Know what your co-workers like.
- 22. Go out of your way to talk to your janitors and cleaning people who most people overlook.
- 23. Find out your co-workers favorite music and make a playlist that includes as much as you can (suitable for work).

- 24. Invite your co-workers in to the service projects you are already involved in.
- 25. Start/join a city league team with your co-workers.
- 26. Organize a weekly co-working group for local entrepreneurs at a local coffee shop.
- 27. Start a small business that will bless your community and create space for mission.
- 28. Work hard to reconcile co-workers who are fighting with one another.
- 29. Keep small candy, gum, or little snacks around to offer to others during a long day.
- 30. Lead the charge in organizing others to help co-workers in need.



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