# Aug 7 | Sunday

Next Door Series: The Power of an Invitation

Read Luke 5:27-32



# 08 | Mon - Two key ingredients | Read Matthew 5:13-16

Common elements we take for granted...salt and light. One enhances and preserves food. The other, no matter how small, always diminishes darkness. How do these ideas translate into your everyday life? That is a good question to ask when you pray today. Could your encouraging words be light to 'neighbors' at work or next door? Does the unusual way you approach life's challenges become salt that makes someone thirsty for God's ways?

## **09 | Tue – An invitation from a servant** | Read <u>2 Kings 5:1-8</u>

Captured and enslaved in a foreign country could be enough to embitter anyone yet this young girl was full of faith. Her track record of serving others made her words seem credible to this powerful Syrian general and his wife, giving them hope for an impossible situation. Who in your life might need an invitation to trust God in their difficulty? Ask God to open your eyes to a need and then offer to pray. It could change someone's life!

# 10 | Wed - Don't you know who I am?! | Read 2 Kings 5:9-15

Naaman was foreign military official but instead of being awed by this powerful person or rejecting him as an unbeliever, outside of God's favor, Elijah focused on the man's need and invited him to a simple action. Not used to being treated so casually, Naaman became offended and almost walked away from healing. When your neighbor asks you to do something 'beneath' you, how do you react?

## 11 | Thu - One thing leads to another | Read Matthew 9:9-13

Jesus invited Matthew to follow Him. Matthew in turn invited Jesus to dinner and then invited all his other riffraff friends to come meet Jesus too. You never know how taking time to connect with your 'undesirable neighbors' could have far-reaching effects. Your love and compassion for the difficult people in your life may be just the spark that could bring them into a life-changing relationship with Jesus.

### 12 | Fri - Unseen | Read Mark 5:25-34

She was just one of the crowd and Jesus was on his way to save a dying child. Yet when the woman touched the edge of his robe in faith, something happened. Despite the urgency of his mission, Jesus stopped to give her his undivided attention and it changed her life. Who around you might be carrying a heavy load that no one knows about? Ask God to help you be more perceptive and then be willing to put people before schedules.

### **13 | Sat – May the Source be with you |** Read 1 John 4:7-12, 19-21

Last week's GPS highlighted the two greatest commandments (Deut. 6:4/Lev. 19:18). Is it easier for you to love God than to love people? Your ability to love others is directly related to understanding how much God loves you. When you feel like a failure at this second commandment, consider God's invitation to borrow His love for others. He is willing to share His unlimited supply. Remember, love is an action, not just a feeling.

August 14 | Sun - Next Door Series: The Art of Neighboring, Part 3

