Living on Mission in Community

Christ Church Exists to Glorify God
by Building a Community of Spirit-Filled Disciples Living on Gospel Mission.

Every Christian is called by God to own the mission given in Matthew 28:19-20 as they live their Lives on Gospel Mission. As a member of Christ Church you are invited to both own and be an active participant in the mission through your Community Group. In his book, Community, Brad House accurately points out, *"…the witness of community is more powerful than an individual witness"* (pp. 41). More importantly this is what Jesus says in John 13:35 and 17:20-23. So at Christ Church members are challenged to live their personal lives on Gospel Mission AND to own and participate in their Community Group with the goal of being a powerful witness to unbelievers.

Every four to six months Community Groups should gather with the goal of building a calendar to propel your Community Group of Disciples to Live on Gospel Mission. The following questions are designed to equip you, your family and your Community Group to brainstorm ways you can live in Community on Gospel Mission. May I add that we want Spirit led/empowered brainstorming so please PRAY before you start to share ideas. I trust these questions will act as a guide to get your ideas flowing so that your Community Group will have many ideas to work with, but please don't limit yourself to these questions only. May God guide you and your Community Group as you experience the joy of owning the Mission of God in spreading the fame of His Great and Glorious Name.

Hospitality : Creating an environment so outsiders can feel like they are insiders

1. What types of activities/events would your unsaved friends join your Community Group in doing? (dinner, hiking, cooking class, bowling, game night, shopping…)
2. In what specific ways would it be natural for your Community Group to throw a party and invite lost neighbors, friends?
3. Do you have any talents, hobbies or interests that would easily lend themselves to having your Community Group and unbelievers benefit from together?

Participation: Joining activities in your community to build relationships

1. What activities and events are happening in your neighborhood or town that your Community Group could participate in (parades, carnival, pancake breakfast, yard sale)?
2. What festivals or events could your Community Group volunteer to serve at?
3. Is there a neighborhood/town association that you and a member of your Community Group could join?
4. Is there a local hang out, park or restaurant your Community Group could hang out at on a regular basis over the course of a few months just for the purpose of meeting people? (Maybe have a GROW meeting there).

Service: Meeting practical needs so you can show the love of God and build relationships

1. What needs do your neighbors, neighborhood or town have that your Community Group could meet?
2. Are there ways you could serve/adopt the local fire department, nursing home, hospice house or school?
3. Do you have any influential/significant contacts that would connect your Community Group to serving opportunities?

No matter what approach you take, remember it is just a means to an end.
In the end the only thing that matters is that you are intentionally seeking to spend time and give energy to loving, serving and living life with people who don't know Jesus.
After all, a disciple is someone who gives up their life so others can know God.