Session 2: The Time Barrier—Margin is Key to Being a Good Neighbor	
SESSION GOALS	
Every session has a point—what each participant should walk away from the discussion knowing, feeling, and doing.	
Main Idea: If Christians want to make space for their neighbors, then it requires flexibility and shifted priorities.	
Head Change: To be able to prioritize what's most important in our busy schedules.	
Heart Change: To feel love for our neighbors that leads us to create margin for them.	
Life Change: To move past convenient relationships and pursue ones that require some sacrifice.	
OPEN	
Describe a busy time in your life. How did your schedule affect your relationships? What was most distracting? What helped you manage those distractions?	
One of the struggles we all have in common is time management. In a culture that praises being constantly on the go, there isn't much time left for us to rest, let alone worry about the family who lives next door.	
We've been learning about what it means to love our neighbors well. In this session, we're going to figure out what steps to take in order to not allow time to become an excuse or a barrier for us to engage with others.	
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VIEW	
Before viewing the session, here are a few important things to look for in Dave Runyon's teaching. As you watch, pay attention to how Dave answers the following questions.	
What does Dave say we have less of? How is it affecting us?	
What myth does Dave talk about that we often believe about our time?	
Why is it important to slow down and be in the moment as much as possible?	
SHOW	
Session 2: The Time Barrier—Margin is Key to Being a Good Neighbor (6 minutes).	

REVIEW

What is your relationship with time? Do you naturally make time for those around you or do you find yourself	
"fitting" people in to an overpacked schedule?	
Dave mentioned that we have more access to time-saving	
devices that ironically suck our time away. What kind of relationship do you have to "time-saving" technology	
like smart phones, apps, or calendars? How have you	
found these things to be time stealers instead of time givers?	
Dave quoted John Ortberg saying, "The greatest enemy	
of spiritual life is hurry." In what ways can rushing	
through life be detrimental to our spiritual growth?	
Dave mentioned that our culture accepts the myth that	
says one day life will settle down and we can make time for others later. When have you allowed a busy schedule	
to interfere with the time you were supposed to spend	
with someone? How did it affect the relationship?	
Dave pointed out that part of engaging with the	
neighborhood is being interruptible—the idea that even	
though we're busy, we're able to stop and take a moment to shift our priorities. He asked us to consider this	
question: Are we living in a way that makes us available to	
others? How would you answer this question? What are some ways that being interruptible could help us slow	
down and reevaluate the way we spend our time?	
In what ways could you create margin for God to work	
in your schedule? What shifts could you make in your	
priorities?	
Dave stated that a simple way we can create space for	
others is by spending time in the front yard or taking walks around the block because it makes us visible and	
available for conversation. What are some other ways	
that you could make space in your schedule for your neighbors?	
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BIBLE EXPLORATION

Distractions are one of the main hurdles to being a good neighbor. When we're distracted, we can miss out on what God's doing around us.	
Read Luke 10:38–42.	
How would you summarize this story in your own words? What's the main point?	
Do you typically identify more with Martha or with Mary in this story? Why?	
What was the main issue that Martha had at the party? Why did Mary's actions make Martha upset? Who did Jesus commend at the end of the story and why?	
Martha's service wasn't the issue—it was the fact that her service was distracting her from being fully engaged with Jesus. When, if at all, have you allowed serving someone to distract you from truly being with them?	
Martha shows us that even when we're doing really good things, we can still miss out on the "main thing." In what ways have you experienced missing out on something due to distractions?	
Being distracted can keep us from engaging with those around us, which was what happened with Martha. The story of Mary and Martha shows us the importance of shifting our priorities for the sake of the moment. Mary's priority was to engage, while Martha prioritized making sure everything was done. What could it look like to prioritize time spent with the people in your neighborhood?	
These verses show us how our perspective about what's important can impact the way we spend our time. What are some ways you spend your free time? What could you do to spend some time engaging with the people in your neighborhood this week?	
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LAST WORD

Loving our neighbors can seem inconvenient sometimes,	
especially when there are millions of things to do. But that's why re-assessing your priorities and having margin can help us be good neighbors.	
can help us be good helghbors.	
If you're asking whether all of these adjustments on behalf of people you barely know are worth it, just	
remember the Great Commandment. Loving and serving our neighbors is what Jesus has commanded us to do and he will give us the grace to do it.	
What are some ways you can start small this week?	
Inviting a neighbor on a jog around the block that was already on your schedule? Or maybe picking up some	
groceries for a neighbor since you're already going to the pharmacy? Take some time this week to think through	
some ways you can include the people around you into	
your schedule.	
DEEPER WALK	
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Read: Read chapter 3 of Dave and Jay's book, <i>The Art of Neighboring</i> . As you read, ask God to help you create	
margin in your schedule in a way that directly benefits one of your neighbors.	
one or your neighbors.	
Memorize: Pick one verse from this session (Luke 10:42, for example) and memorize it this week.	
Write: Think about your normal priorities and everything	
on your calendar for the next month. Write out three	
things you can move down the list of importance in order to engage with a neighbor this month.	