

MY OIKOS MAP
(CIRCLE OF INFLUENCE)

As we pivot in the right direction and move closer towards a life in Jesus, our lives begin to look like Jesus. 1 John 2:6; Galatians 2:20

What does Jesus value most of all? People (i.e. friends, family, enemies). Ephesians 5:1-2; John 15:12; 1 John 3:15-16

“Christ in my mind and in my thinking; my eyes and in my seeing”

Q: When I see people what are my thoughts towards them?

Problem: Comparison complex—Either we elevate ourselves by degrading others OR degrade ourselves by elevating others.

Response: See them and think about them as Jesus does—as having immeasurable worth.

“Christ in my hands and in my doing; my feet and in my going”

Q: Do I care enough for people to go out of my way for them?

Problem: We are possessive of our time and do not leave space for loving others in our lives.

Response: We are on a mission not an intermission.

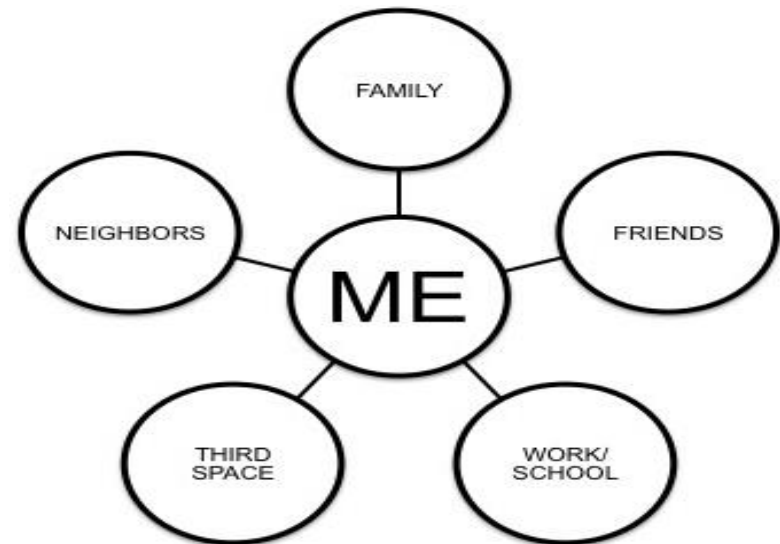
“Christ in my ears and in my hearing; my mouth and in my speaking”

Q: When I meet people do I make room for them in my life?

Problem: We settle for surface-level relationships or our agendas and assumptions get in the way of powerful transformation.

Response: Trust God and genuinely love the person by seeking out understanding of their story.

Pray for them Daily! Specifically! And Radically!



**“Christ in my mind and in my thinking.
Christ in my eyes and in my seeing.
Christ in my mouth and in my speaking.
Christ in my feet and in my going.
Christ in my hands and in my doing.
Christ in my heart and in my loving.”**

PRAYER PLAN FOR MY NEIGHBOR

Come up with a weekly/bimonthly/monthly prayer plan by identifying a specific individual or two from your *oikos* (OR immediate circle of influence) who you will be praying for for the chosen duration.

PRACTICE: First, take a moment to align your mind and heart towards that person with the mind and heart of Jesus. Then use the prayer circle below as a tool for guiding your prayers for them.



Other Prayer Practices to Include:

- Choose an individual from your *oikos* each week, pray for them whenever you think of them.
- Choose an individual from your *oikos* who does not know the Lord and pray diligently for them until they come to know the Lord.
- After you are finished praying for the specific needs of the person you are praying for, ask the Lord if there are ways that you might practically play a role in the answer to your prayers for them.

Food for Thought

For the week of Nov. 9, 2014
(Questions and Scriptures for Life Group study)

HOW YOU SEE, THINK AND TALK ABOUT OTHERS

-Share a time when you became aware of the negative thoughts you were having towards others? Did they surprise you?

-If you were to align your eyes, mind and mouth with the eyes, mind and mouth of Christ, how would this impact how you saw, thought and spoke about others?

Read Ephesians 4:29-32 and Matthew 7:3-5

-What do you struggle with in these passages? How do these Scriptures inform the way we ought to see, think and talk about others?

-How might you begin practically this week aligning your mind, eyes and mouth with the mind, eyes and mouth of Christ?

MAKING SPACE FOR OTHERS

Jesus was asked once what the greatest commandment in the Bible was. He gave two because he said they were inherently connected: Wholly love God and love our neighbors.

Read Luke 10:25-37

-How does this story challenge our thinking about Jesus' challenge to love our neighbors?

-Who in your life desperately needs your love and the love of Jesus in their life?

-Where can you intentionally make space in your life to weekly love on people? (e.g. coffee shop; kids' games; book club; mom's group etc.)

MAKING TIME FOR OTHERS

Read 1 Corinthians 3:7

-What does this verse say to us when we are making time to love others?

-What role do we have in reaching others for Christ?

-When making time for others what does the phrase, "start with your ears and not your mouth," mean to you?

-Who are you specifically praying for?

AND/OR

-Who do you want to commit to praying for?

SHARE YOUR OIKOS MAP WITH YOUR LIFE GROUP