

THE ART OF NEIGHBORING

TALK IT OVER

The Path of Neighboring

Pastor Randy Frazee

August 30-31, 2025

If you would like to watch the weekend message, visit www.saddleback.com/watch.

Open your group in prayer and remember that this is only a guide. Feel free to discuss each of the questions provided or simply dive deeper into just one. Before you close with prayer, take a few minutes to look over the Three Essential Questions toward the end of the document.

Scriptures

Genesis 2:18 (NIV), Proverbs 27:10, Acts 17:26-27 (NIRV)

Questions:

1. Looking back at Genesis 2:18, why do you think God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone”? How have you experienced that truth in your own life?
2. Our speaker talked about “*crowded loneliness*.” Have you ever felt surrounded by people but still lonely? What caused it, and what helped you move out of it?
3. Research shows that strong social connections improve health. How does this reinforce Jesus’ command to love our neighbors as ourselves?
4. Think about the “worlds” you manage (work, family, church, hobbies). Do they feel fragmented, or do you have circles where life overlaps? What would it look like to simplify?
5. In Acts 17:26–27, we’re reminded that God placed us exactly where we live. How does that change the way you view your home, neighborhood, or apartment complex?
6. Randy Frazee also shared about building “refrigerator rights” relationships (the kind of friendships where someone can walk into your kitchen uninvited). Do you have any relationships like that? If not, what keeps you from having them?
7. What was most challenging or eye-opening to you about the story of Randy’s neighbor Tom? What does it teach us about being faithful even when we don’t see immediate spiritual results?

8. Proverbs 27:10 says, “Better a neighbor nearby than a relative far away.” How have you seen this play out in your own life?
9. Of the practical steps suggested (drawing a one-mile circle, sitting in the front yard, digital fast, dinner with neighbors, driveway time, dog walking, starting a group, etc.), which one feels most realistic for you to start with this week?
10. Looking ahead, what is one step you can commit to taking on your own path of neighboring? How can this group support and encourage you in it?

Three Essential Questions

The following questions are intended to be open-ended and encourage members to consider how they felt and what they, or the group, can do as a result of hearing the message.

1. **What did you hear?** *What point in this message was most impactful for you?*
2. **What do you think?** *How did this message challenge, change, or affirm your thinking?*
3. **What will you do?** *How will you or your group put into practice what you’ve learned today?*

Small Group Action Steps

1. Consider taking the Group Health Assessment in your small group. This assessment will help you see how your small group is balancing the five purposes and will give you suggested next steps for each purpose. Click here to take the Group Health Assessment:
<https://saddleback.com/connect/smallgroups#spiritualCheckup>
2. Did you know that Saddleback produces many new small group studies each year? Visit <https://saddleback.com/studies> to check out Saddleback’s ever-growing library of small group curricula.

Are you interested in the Bible and in helping small groups benefit from the weekend message? Well, you are in luck! Saddleback members like you create these discussion guides each week. If you are interested in joining the team, please email Maturity@saddleback.com