

THE ART OF NEIGHBORING

TALK IT OVER

The Practice of Neighboring
Pastor Andy Wood
August 16-17, 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.

Scripture :

Mark 2:13-17 (NIV)

Questions:

1. What does a good neighbor look like to you? Share a story of how a neighbor helped you.
2. In Mark 2:13-17, Jesus has dinner at Levi's house with other tax collectors and sinners with whom the Pharisees would not associate. Jesus said to the Pharisees, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners." Pastor Andy mentioned the Pharisees would not allow the tax collectors and sinners in the house of worship. What rationale might the Pharisees have had for this rule and how does Saddleback Church differ?
3. How can we model Jesus' behavior when we interact with our neighbors?
4. We influence those around us in many ways and can use our homes to draw others to Christ. How can we be hospitable to our neighbors? In what way are you already an influence in your neighborhood?

5. Look at your existing routines. Where in your routines can you invite someone into your life?
6. We have words of life and deeds of grace that can bring hope and healing to broken people. Share examples of how we can show compassion to those around us, like our co-workers, classmates and neighbors?
7. We all carry difficulties and experience challenges. When someone shares their burdens, what can we do to show empathy and step into the gap for them?

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