

What Makes a Good Neighbor?

In the Bible we see Jesus calls us to love our neighbors, but how exactly do we go about doing that? This summer at Calvary, we're looking for ways to love and be a blessing to our communities. So, we identified 4 markers of what makes a Good Neighbor and put together some ways we can each put them into practice by being a good neighbor who...

KNOWS THEIR NEIGHBOR'S NAMES

- Learn your neighbors' names, and use them when you greet them.
- Host a party! Invite your neighbors by name and help them meet each other.
- Notice your neighbors' hobbies, and ask them about it.
- Introduce yourself to the families living on either side of your home.
- Ask the names of your neighbors' kids/dogs if you see them out together. Then you can greet them as a whole family!
- Print out a map of your street and add all the names of your neighbors.
- Ask when their birthdays are and get them a small treat when it comes up.

IS GENEROUS

- Offer to take trash cans out/in when your neighbors are out of town.
- Take dinner to a neighbor who is shut in their house.
- Share tools with neighbors doing projects.
- Give references to your neighbor for repair services.
- Have a free lemonade/iced coffee/snack table at your house as people walk by.
- Offer to trim your neighbors' shrubs near your property line.
- Pay for someone else's laundry.
- Offer to bring in mail/packages when your neighbors are out of town.
- Set out a water bowl/dog treat station on hot afternoons.
- Help your neighbor put up Christmas lights.
- Pick up groceries for your neighbors.
- Pick up trash or dog poop you see around the neighborhood.
- Offer to pet-sit when your neighbors are out of town.
- Give out small gifts for the holidays.
- Share produce from your fruit trees or vegetable gardens.

IS KIND

- Keep a lookout for graduation signs, birthday balloons, etc. Give cards for these significant events.
- Talk to your neighbors, ask how their week/day is going. Take time to listen.
- Help your neighbor move something.
- Do a garage sale with your neighbor.
- Help your neighbor with yard work.
- Give out other pops on hot afternoons.
- Share pool toys with other kids at the pool.
- Drop off baked goods at your neighbor's houses.
- Surprise your neighbors' kids with small toys.
- Make a free lemonade or iced tea stand.
- If you are hosting a large group, give your neighbors advance notice and your number in case they have any issues.
- Get to know the children in your neighborhood as well as the parents.
- Drop off a small plant with your phone number and address as a welcome to new neighbors.

PRAYS FOR THEIR NEIGHBORS

- Pray for a different neighbor each night with your kids before bed.
- Pray spiritual protection over your neighborhood as you go for walks.
- Choose one neighbor to pray for each week. Ask them for any requests, and follow up with them the next time you see them.
- Drive into your neighborhood slowly and pray out loud for each house/unit you drive by.
- Pray over houses as you're on a walk.
- Ask neighbors for specific ways to pray for them.