



SERVING OUR FAMILIES AND NEIGHBORS

Teachers

My Spouse

Neighbors

Servers at Restaurants

My Children

Store Clerks

HOW WILL YOU SERVE
YOUR FAMILY AND
NEIGHBORS IN 2011?

My Extended Family



POWER Kids

Co-workers

my neighbor.

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Professors

My Siblings

Gas Station Attendant

My Grandparents

Classmates

My Parents

LET'S SERVE OUR FAMILIES & NEIGHBORS!

The greatest commandment Jesus says, is to love God with everything you have and that the second is like it, love your neighbor as yourself (Matthew 22:36-40). Our family is our first neighbor. Who are we physically closer to than those with whom we share a roof, a name, or bloodline? It would be quite unfortunate to build charity after charity or business success after success or friendship after friendship, but lose sight of our spouse, children and families. How have you intentionally given yourself away to your family lately? Do they know how much you love them? Do they know who Jesus is and who He is to you? Giving it away begins here...

Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

-Matthew 22:37-40

Just outside the circle of our family are our neighbors – those with whom we come into contact in our natural pathway of life. Our next door neighbors, co-workers, friends, that store clerk you see every time you shop, the PTA, other parents of the soccer team, and the list goes on... these people need to know and experience God as much as anyone, and they are in *your* life by no accident. Take the time to add some intentionality to your natural conversations. How are they really doing? Do they care about spiritual things? Do they know Jesus?

It's not hidden that these are two of the hardest circles of life to talk about Jesus. But that doesn't change the need or the amazing benefit of doing so. Connect with a Life Group to learn and process with others about how to connect with family and neighbors. Check out the Emmaus School of Ministry here at Grace for courses training you in how to share your faith. Pray consistently for boldness and for God to continually be working in their lives. Let's make a difference with those we care about most.

Giving It Away,



Joe Caruso
Pastor of Mobilization
Grace Church– Bath Campus



SERVING MY FAMILY

Am I loving my Family emotionally, physically & spiritually?

Here are a few questions to help you assess that:

- How have I served my spouse this week?
- What do my children need most from me right now?
- Do I see spiritual growth happening in my family?

Here are some simple ideas on serving your family...

- Make it a goal to give more compliments—everyone needs to be encouraged!
- Write a note/card explaining why you appreciate your family member.
- Do something out of your comfort zone that someone else always has to do (i.e., if you never cook, cook! If you never clean the bathroom, do it!).



SERVING MY NEIGHBOR

Am I loving my Neighbors emotionally, physically & spiritually?

Here are some questions to help you assess that:

- Who in my natural path of life have I served this week?
- Do those in my neighborhood know they can count on my help?
- Do I realize co-workers, classmates, teachers, professors, and store clerks are my neighbors too?

Here are some simple ideas on serving your neighbors this week...

- Offer to help with a seasonal chore – clean the gutters, rake leaves, shovel the driveway, mulch the yard...
- When you bake your special treat, make some and deliver it to your neighbor!
- Offer free babysitting/childcare!
- Take some board games or some books and head down to the local nursing home/ care center. Brighten someone's day by spending time with them and listening to their life stories!

