

SESSION 4 - CONNECT

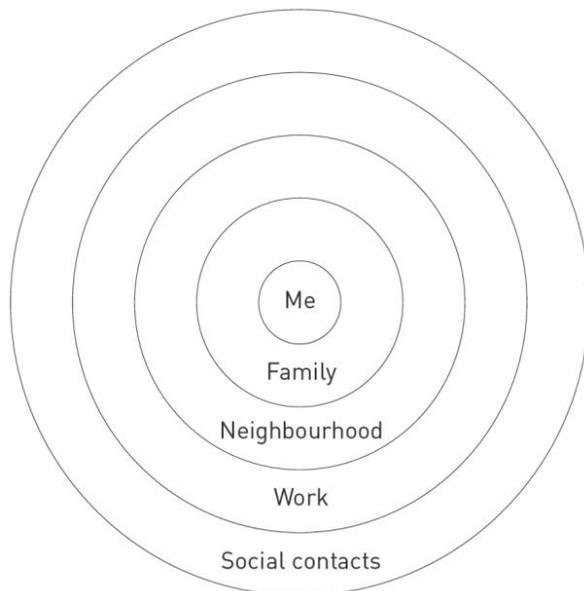
In this session, we will be thinking more about the people you know and how you can be connecting with them—how you can get to know them, serve them and help them find out more about Jesus.

Video 1: People you meet

Exercise: Who do you know?

You may not realize how many people you come into contact with in an average week. This exercise will help you compile a list of people you know by name and see fairly regularly. Write the names of people you know who don't know Jesus in the space provided below.

Think of your world as a series of concentric circles—you at the centre, your family in the next circle out from the centre, your neighbours in the next circle out, your workplace in the next, your social contacts in the next, and so on. Use this pattern to think about the people you know, perhaps making a list under each category. Then write down the names of all the people you know, who don't know Jesus.



- Family:
- Neighbourhood:
- Work:
- Social contacts:
- Others (sport, clubs, hobbies, committees, shop-keepers, etc.):

You've thought about the people you meet in an average week. What does the Bible have to say about the way you should relate to those people? What should be your attitude to others and how should that affect your actions?

For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: "You shall love your neighbour as yourself." (Gal 5:13-14)

Also read 1 Corinthians 9:19-23 and 10:31-11:1.

1. Paul says he is "free from all" (1 Cor 9:19) and that Christians are "called to freedom" (Gal 5:13). What do you think he means by this?

2. If Paul is free, why does he make himself “a servant to all” (1Cor 9:19)? What goal or purpose is motivating his actions?

3. What did this mean in practice for Paul? What might it mean for you?

Video 2: Freedom to serve

Exercise: Practical service

- In the first column of the table below, list all of the people from the opening exercise who do not know Jesus (or the ten you know best).
- In the second column of the table, make some notes about the sort of relationship you have with them and where they are at in their knowledge of/relationship with Jesus. For example:
 - I know him really well. We’ve been friends for years. He has been to church a few times but hasn’t shown a great deal of interest.
 - I run into her from time to time but don’t know her very well. She considers herself to be religious and has a loose affiliation with a church/other religion.
 - I only started working with her a couple of months ago. I’m not sure what she knows/thinks about Christianity—must find out!
- Think of one or two practical ways you can get to know and serve each person better. For example:
 - ask him around for dinner to get to know him better
 - find out more about her family
 - ask him what he enjoys doing in his spare time.

Name	What sort of relationship do you have with the person? What do they know about Jesus?	Practical steps to take
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		

Video 3: Forward steps

To conclude

1. In groups of two or three, spend time praying for some of the people you listed in the first exercise. Pray for opportunities and boldness to talk to these people about Jesus.
2. If you have time, tell the others in your small group about the person (or persons) who were instrumental in you becoming a Christian. How did they make a difference in your life?

See if you can find an opportunity this week to tell the story of how you became a Christian to another Christian you know (someone at church or in your Bible study group). Be honest about it: say it’s homework for a course you’re doing. Ask them to tell you their story too (if they are comfortable to do so).