

Practicing Missional Presence in Your Neighborhood

WHAT IS MISSIONAL PRESENCE?

"Mission is both the announcement and demonstration of the reign of God through Christ" - Michael Frost (*Surprise the World: 5 Habits of Highly Missional People*)

Missional presence is being present to our neighbors in a way that proclaims and demonstrates the reign of God through Jesus Christ. It reflects an active awareness of and participation in the ongoing mission of Jesus in our midst. It is the kind of presence that surrenders our own goals and motives for the mission of God.

Consider [John 1:14](#): "The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth." (NIV)

Jesus offers humanity his perfect missional presence. God the Son, sent from the Father, to dwell among us, proclaim, and demonstrate the reign of God by the power of the Spirit.

Some qualities of missional presence:

MISSIONAL PRESENCE IS

- A participation in the mission of God
- Sent and intentional
- Relational

MISSIONAL PRESENCE IS NOT

- Prioritizing human purposes and goals
- Transactional
- Not living sent
- Conditional, holding ulterior motives, or manipulative.



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PLACE-SHARING AS MISSIONAL PRESENCE

Consider the practice of place-sharing as a posture of missional presence.

A simple definition of place-sharing is “a posture of relating where one shares the ‘place’ of another; a deeply relational posture of ministry.” Place-sharing cultivates a presence that is intentional, relational, and sensitive to the ongoing work of Christ in our midst.

For more information about practicing place-sharing, please visit:
(<https://resources.gci.org/media/placesharing>)

PRACTICES FOR DEVELOPING MISSIONAL PRESENCE IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

To get you started, look at these practices of missional presence.

- [2022-CH6-The-Art-of-Being-a-Neighbor.pdf](#)
- [2024-CH4-LoveAvenuePractices.pdf](#)
- [2022-CH1-Missional_Living.pdf](#)
- Consider organizing missional presence around worship calendar seasons
 - Structure corporate presence in the neighborhood around seasons in the worship calendar. Be intentional about proclaiming the full story of Jesus Christ throughout the year.

Contextualize your missional presence.

- Reflect together
 - Where do our neighbors already gather?
 - What places in the neighborhood offer opportunities to authentically build relationships?
 - What does announcement and demonstration of the mission of God look like in your neighborhood?

THE ESSENTIALS

Missional presence is a way of being with our neighbors in our everyday moments that proclaims and demonstrates the mission of God. The ultimate missional presence is given to us in Jesus. Jesus invites us to participate in his ongoing mission through sharing his missional presence with our neighbors.