NEIGHBOURING

BLESS PRACTICE #2 Listening with Care

People don't care how much you know until they know how much you care.

- Dallas Willard used to say, "The first act of love is always the giving of attention".

"Ultimately, when you take the time to listen and get to know someone, that's when the people around you truly feel loved and blessed."

- Dave Ferguson, *B.L.E.S.S*

Five snapshots of careful listening from Jesus and his followers. Listening with care:

Makes no _____.

- Luke 18:36-43

Finds the _____.

- Acts 17:16-23

Asks good _____.

- Luke 24:13-17

Reads between the _____.

- John 4:15-18

Explains the _____.

- Acts 8:29-35

NEIGHBOURING

My *BLESS* Practice Plan

Self-Examen – Where am I at? (1-10): _____

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Apathy
*Unaware
*Disobedient
*Hostility

Growing Passion
*Love for God & People
*Desire & Prayer
*Building Relationships

Growing Practice
*Learning Methods
*Trying & Improving
*Spiritual Dialog

Growing Influence
*God Uses Me
*People Believe in Christ
*High Influence

FRANC – Name people far from God in my spheres of influence I pray for regularly:

Friends _____

Relatives _____

Acquaintances _____

Neighbours _____

Co-workers _____

BLESS	How I plan to BLESS others and increase my engagement?	Deadline
Begin to Pray		
Listen		
Eat		
Serve		
Share		

NEIGHBOURING

Toolbox:

A. Start with people's names, where they live and what they do. Practice remembering and using this information, incorporating it in follow-up conversations with your neighbours

B. Check-in, stop talking and sit tight. Practice asking people how they are. Then, suspend any responses or advice. Just listen.

C. Ask Good Questions. Try open-ended questions like "How, what, and why". Try, "help me understand". Try asking clarifying questions by summarizing what you think a person has said and letting them correct you so you can better understand.

D. Take a cue from Motivational Interviewing. A rich and empathetic counselling technique that uses active listening to help both the counsellor and participants discover meaning, reach an understanding and motivate action. MI is a powerful tool for reflection-based discovery. MI uses techniques such as open-ended questions, affirmation, reflective listening and summarizing