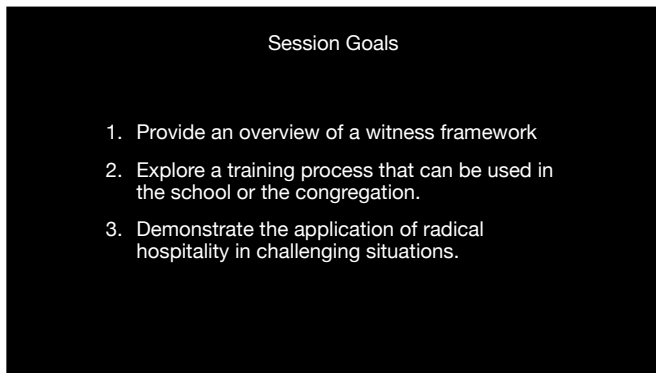


1



2



3

How has the practice of hospitality changed from your childhood?  
Why do we not practice hospitality as much today as we once did?  
What energizes you as you think about practicing hospitality in your home?  
What challenges you as you think about practicing hospitality in your home?



4

**The Witness of Presence**

1. Definition

A Christian's public testimony passively demonstrated through the Christian's values expressed in word and deed.

5

Notice it is not the same as friendship evangelism, nor is it the same as holiness

**The Witness of Presence**

This is not the same as friendship evangelism.

Friendship evangelism is commonly understood as:

*It is the intentional effort of believers to internalize the gospel, experience personal transformation and through the empowerment of the Holy Spirit, exemplify Christ likeness as a way of life. The Apostle Paul describes the process of this transformed lifestyle accordingly; "Be not conformed to this world; but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God" Romans 12:2. The renewal of the mind produces reformation in the way people live, interact and serve.*

6

Notice it is not the same as friendship evangelism, nor is it the same as holiness

What is wrong with the definition of Friendship evangelism?

In the model, what is supposed to convince others to seek Jesus?

## The Witness of Presence

This is not the same as contextual evangelism.

Contextual evangelism is commonly understood as:

*Adopting the lifestyle of the people in the community in order to be viewed as approachable. The assumption is that if people see us as approachable, they will talk about faith with us.*

7

Notice it is not the same as friendship evangelism, nor is it the same as holiness

What is wrong with the definition of contextual evangelism?

## The Witness of Presence

### 1. Definition

A Christian's public testimony passively demonstrated through the Christian's values expressed in word and deed.

In Christ we are able to experience:

*Identity- Romans 6:1-4; Galatians 2:20*

*Renewal- Romans 12:2 ; 2 Corinthians 5:16-17*

*Certainty- Romans 8:37-39; Philippians 1:6*

*Sufficiency- Matthew 6:26-33; 2 Peter 1:3-8*

8

## The Witness of Presence

### 2. It's importance

- It is the testimony that most experience from us.
- It was a critical "marker" in the early growth of Christianity.
- It has the power to validate or invalidate all other forms of witness.

9

The Witness of Presence

3. Is formed by an internal transformation.

- Embraces the priesthood.
- Confidence in the work of the Holy Spirit.
- Other focused
- Authentic
- Anticipates God moments in everyday life.

10

Exodus 19-

The Witness of Presence

4. How we are assessed by others-

- Sunday morning
- Our treatment of others
- Our response to crises
- Our outlook on life
- Our response to guilt and shame

11

They are not looking for perfection. Perfect people are fake, it just means they are better than most at hiding their faults. They are looking for a consistent reliance and value of faith.

The Witness of Presence

5. How we assess ourselves-

- Our bank statements.
- Our calendar.

12

Look at your bank statement- Where is faith expressed in your distribution of funds? How was generosity practiced this past month? Look at your calendar- How was your value of Christ demonstrated in your use of time? Where did you build margins to allow for unexpected interruptions for the care of others? (God, others, and yourself)

The Witness of Presence


6. Resources for growing in our witness of presence.



13

Five Gifts- <https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Congregations-and-Synods/Faith-Practices/5-Gifts>

6. Resources for Discipleship Manual presence.



14

A New Believers.... [https://www.aflc.org/evangelism/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Discipleship\\_Manual.pdf](https://www.aflc.org/evangelism/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Discipleship_Manual.pdf)

Five Gifts- <https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Congregations-and-Synods/Faith-Practices/5-Gifts>

The Witness of Opportunity

1. Definition

A welcomed sharing of the gospel message, usually in response to a crises or need.

- Unplanned
- Normally in response to a question or invitation
- Situational
- Usually, a one-time event

15

Notice it is not the same as friendship evangelism, nor is it the same as holiness

The Witness of Opportunity

2. The goal

To give a testimony about God's love through Christ Jesus in response to a specific issue.

16

We want to tell people where Jesus can be found in the midst of the crises.

Witness of opportunity almost always occur in the context of a relationship.

The Witness of Opportunity

3. Why it is important?

The witness of presence tells the observer that you value your faith. Through the witness of opportunity we are able to speak of the opportunity of faith for the seeker.

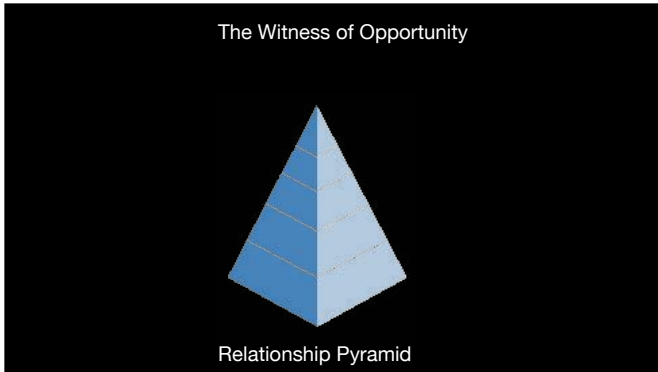
17

The Witness of Opportunity

4. Why doesn't it happen?

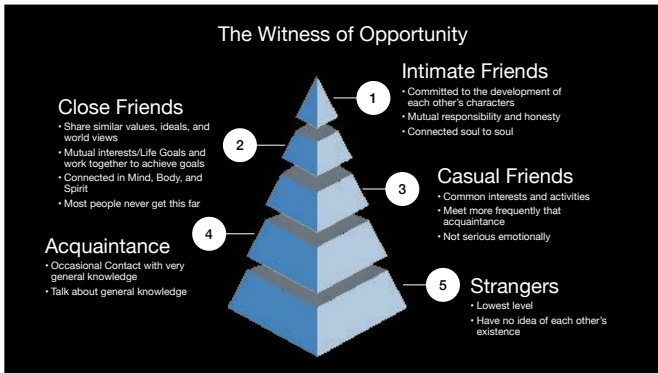
1. The person isn't ready for the conversation.
2. The relationship isn't ready for the conversation.
3. We have not established and/or developed a relational connection with those who need to hear.

18



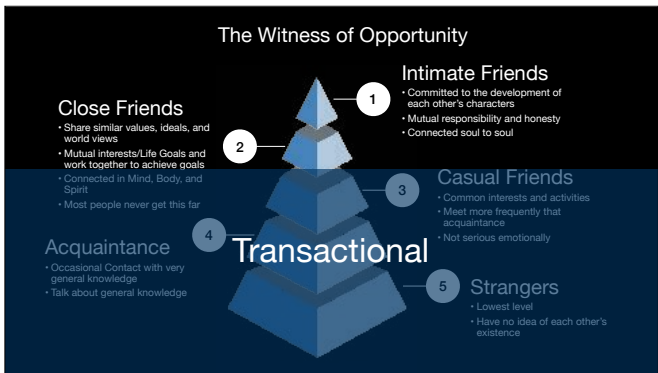
19

[https://socialsci.libretexts.org/Bookshelves/Communication/Interpersonal Communication/Interpersonal Communication - A Mindful Approach to Relationships \(Wrench et al.\)/10: Friendship Relationships/10.02: Stages and Types of Friendships](https://socialsci.libretexts.org/Bookshelves/Communication/Interpersonal%20Communication/Interpersonal%20Communication_-_A_Mindful_Approach_to_Relationships_(Wrench_et_al.)/10:_Friendship_Relationships/10.02:_Stages_and_Types_of_Friendships)



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[https://socialsci.libretexts.org/Bookshelves/Communication/Interpersonal Communication/Interpersonal Communication - A Mindful Approach to Relationships \(Wrench et al.\)/10: Friendship Relationships/10.02: Stages and Types of Friendships](https://socialsci.libretexts.org/Bookshelves/Communication/Interpersonal%20Communication/Interpersonal%20Communication_-_A_Mindful_Approach_to_Relationships_(Wrench_et_al.)/10:_Friendship_Relationships/10.02:_Stages_and_Types_of_Friendships)



21

Transactional relationships will most regularly produce witness of opportunity sharing. People are most open to simple explanations or personal opinions rather than long or deep discussions.

[https://socialsci.libretexts.org/Bookshelves/Communication/Interpersonal Communication/](https://socialsci.libretexts.org/Bookshelves/Communication/Interpersonal%20Communication/)

Interpersonal Communication -  
A Mindful Approach to Relationships (Wrench et al.)/  
10: Friendship Relationships/  
10.02: Stages and Types of Friendships



22

At this level of sharing, the listener is trying to assess consistency between what you do and what you say you value.



23



## The Witness of Opportunity

24

### 5. Why is it important?

1. We are called to be a ready witness.
2. Faith comes from hearing. Romans 10:17
3. A question is often the first step to a living relationship with Jesus.

---

## The Witness of Opportunity

25

### 5. How do we prepare?

1. Develop ready responses to potential questions by considering God's presence in the challenges you face.
2. Focus on basic touch points, rather than memorizing a speech.
3. Create an environment that invites conversation.

---

## Conversational Evangelism

26

1. Strike up a simple conversation with people you meet.
2. Start quick, lite conversations as often as you can.
3. Adjust your schedule.



*Good questions are:*

- *Born out a desire to better understand someone.*
- *Flow naturally out of your context and conversations.*
- *Demonstrate that you have listened thoughtfully.*
- *Are open-ended and promote more dialogue and reflection.*
- *Probe sensitively and reflectively into someone's belief systems.*
- *Compel others to investigate the Christian life.*

*God Space, by Doug Pollock*

27

Doug Pollock in his book, "God Space" warns that questions should not be used to gain control of the conversation. They should not be used as a springboard to launch a monologue.

*Good questions are not:*

- *Used to get control of a conversation so you can get your point across.*
- *A set of memorized questions to herd people toward a decision you think they should make.*
- *A springboard from which to launch into a monologue.*

*God Space, by Doug Pollock*

28

Doug Pollock in his book, "God Space" warns that questions should not be used to gain control of the conversation. They should not be used as a springboard to launch a monologue.

*Examples of good "wondering" questions:*

- *That's an interesting perspective; I'm wondering how you arrived at that conclusion.*
- *I'm wondering what role religion has played in shaping your life.*
- *I'm wondering why the topic of God seems to stir up such strong emotions in you.*
- *I've thought long and hard about our last conversation; here's what I'm still wondering about.*
- *I'm wondering how my answer to that question made you feel.*

*God Space, by Doug Pollock*

29

Doug Pollock in his book, "God Space" warns that questions should not be used to gain control of the conversation. They should not be used as a springboard to launch a monologue.

The Witness of Opportunity

30

5. How do we prepare?

1. Develop the art of chatting with people.

Try the following:

- A. Strike up a simple conversation with people you meet.
- B. Start quick, lite conversations as often as you can.
- C. Adjust your schedule.

The Witness of Community

31

1. Definition

Forming a safe caring environment where people can form a faithful response to the gospel through nurturing relationships.

- Sacrificial hospitality
- Intentional community.
- Truth spoken in love.
- Unconditional acceptance.

“Seeing strangers as neighbors and neighbors as family of God.

The Witness of Community

32

2. It is not:

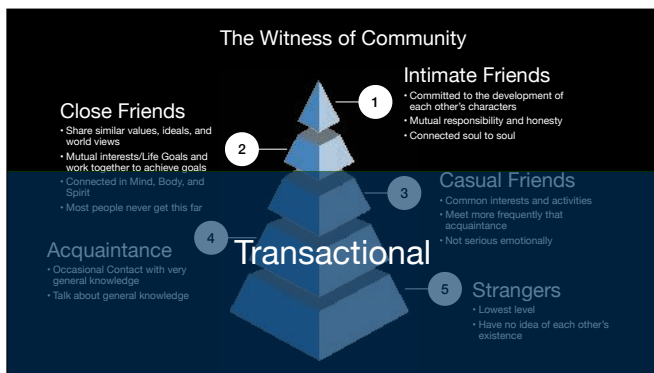
- A small group
- A program of the church
- Discipleship process

## The Witness of Community

33

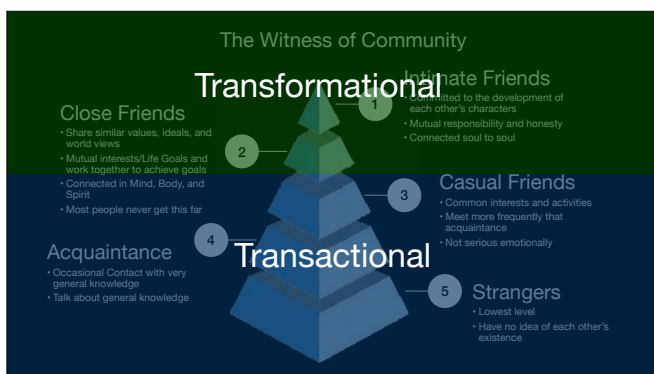
### 3. Why it is important?

- For some, coming to faith is a challenging journey.
- Christ's sacrifice redeemed us from our sin and restored us to community.
- Fear of loneliness and the need for acceptance drives many to the pseudo-communities of this world.



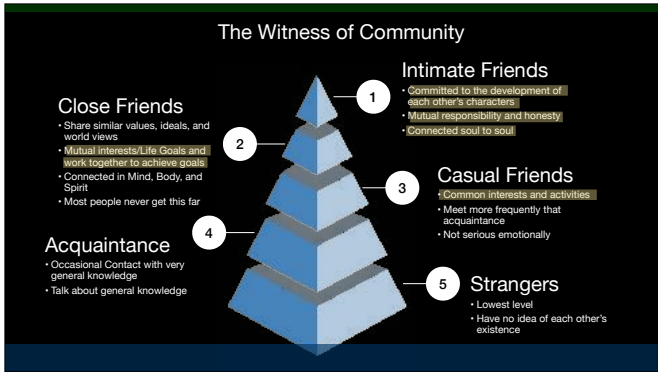
34

[https://socialsci.libretexts.org/Bookshelves/Communication/Interpersonal Communication/Interpersonal Communication - A Mindful Approach to Relationships \(Wrench et al.\)/10: Friendship Relationships/10.02: Stages and Types of Friendships](https://socialsci.libretexts.org/Bookshelves/Communication/Interpersonal%20Communication/Interpersonal%20Communication%20-%20A%20Mindful%20Approach%20to%20Relationships%20(Wrench%20et%20al.)/10%3A%20Friendship%20Relationships/10.02%3A%20Stages%20and%20Types%20of%20Friendships)

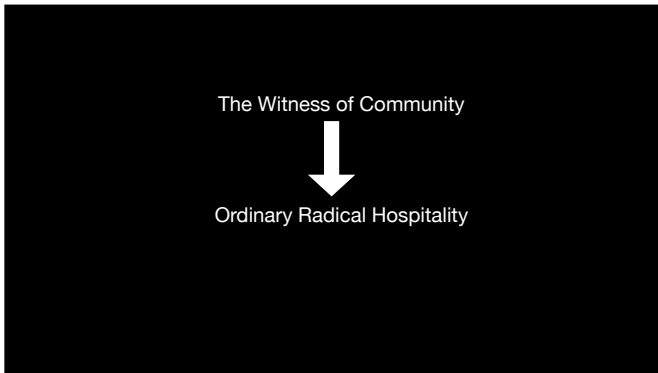


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36



37

### Ordinary Radical Hospitality

Is a Mindset	Is a Practice
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Embraces the priesthood.</li> <li>• Confidence in the work of the Holy Spirit.</li> <li>• Other focused</li> <li>• Authentic</li> <li>• Anticipates God moments in everyday life.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A home that knows no strangers.</li> <li>• Gives Sacrificially.</li> <li>• Builds margins for ministry in day to day life.</li> <li>• Practices acceptance while not giving approval.</li> </ul>

38

Ordinary Radical Hospitality

39

• A home that knows no strangers.



Public Space

3rd Space

Intimate Space

Ordinary Radical Hospitality

40

• A home that knows no strangers.



Intimate Space

Safety

Food

Conversation

Ordinary Radical Hospitality

41

• A home that knows no strangers.

Is a Practice



Intimate Space

- Gives Sacrificially.
- Builds margins for ministry in day to day life.
- Practices acceptance while not giving approval.

Ordinary Radical Hospitality

42

- Gives Sacrificially.

Time  
Treasure  
Heart

---

Ordinary Radical Hospitality

43

- Gives Sacrificially.

Is a Practice

- Builds margins for ministry in day to day life.
- Practices acceptance while not giving approval.

---

Ordinary Radical Hospitality

44

- Builds margins for ministry in day to day life.

Ordinary Radical Hospitality

45

- Builds margins for ministry in day to day life.

Is a Practice

- Practices acceptance while not giving approval.

---

Ordinary Radical Hospitality

46

- Practices acceptance while not giving approval.

There is no good answer to a bad question.

---

Ordinary Radical Hospitality

47

- Key Practices

1. Respect the Reality of Your Neighbors' Lives and Households



Ordinary Radical Hospitality

48

- Key Practices
  - 1. Understand the Reality of Your Neighbors' Lives and Households
  - 2. Pray That You Will Be a Safe Person to Hear the Burdens of Your Neighbors' Hearts
  - 3. Understand the Biblical Difference between Holiness and Goodness and Don't Be Afraid to Celebrate the Goodness of Your Unbelieving Neighbors
  - 4. Don't Accuse of Ill Will People Who Hold to a Different Theology
  - 5. Know Why It Matters Most That We Are Made in God's Image

Households Ordinary Radical Hospitality

49

- Key Practices
  - 2. Pray That You Will Be a Safe Person to Hear the Burdens of Your Neighbors' Hearts
  - 3. Understand the Biblical Difference between Holiness and Goodness and Don't Be Afraid to Celebrate the Goodness of Your Unbelieving Neighbors
  - 4. Don't Accuse of Ill Will People Who Hold to a Different Theology
  - 5. Know Why It Matters Most That We Are Made in God's Image
  - 6. Start Somewhere. Start Today

Burdens of Your Neighbors' Hearts Ordinary Radical Hospitality

50

- Key Practices
  - 3. Understand the Biblical Difference between Holiness and Goodness and Don't Be Afraid to Celebrate the Goodness of Your Unbelieving Neighbors
  - 4. Don't Accuse of Ill Will People Who Hold to a Different Theology
  - 5. Know Why It Matters Most That We Are Made in God's Image
  - 6. Start Somewhere. Start Today

and Goodness of God. Celebrate the Goodness of Your Unbelieving Neighbors

### Ordinary Radical Hospitality

51

• Key Practices  
4. Don't Accuse or Call Whomsoever Alleged to a Different Theology

5. Know Why It Matters Most That We Are Made in God's Image

6. Start Somewhere. Start Today

4. Don't Accuse or Call Whomsoever Alleged to a Different Theology

### Ordinary Radical Hospitality

52

• Key Practices  
5. Know Why It Matters Most That We Are Made in God's Image

6. Start Somewhere. Start Today

## BELLS

*The Five Habits of Highly Missional People*

53

<b>Bless</b>	I will bless three people this week, at least one of whom is not a member of our church.
<b>Eat</b>	I will eat with three people this week, at least one of whom is not a member of our church.
<b>Listen</b>	I will listen to one person in the community who does not share my faith perspective.
<b>Learn</b>	I will spend one hour this week learning additional ways I can be involved with my neighbors, serving our community.
<b>Sent</b>	I will seek opportunities to encourage with the gospel or pray for or with someone in the community.

## LASSIE

54

<b>Listen</b>	Be quick to listen
<b>Ask</b>	Ask questions to listen more
<b>Seek</b>	Seek a point of connection
<b>Share</b>	Share God's Word. The only thing that can change people's hearts.
<b>Invite</b>	Keep the conversation about Jesus going.
<b>Encourage</b>	Follow up and Follow Through

## Radically Ordinary Hospitality

55

1. Suggested Bibliography:
2. The Gospel Comes With a House Key, 2018, Rosaria Butterfield
3. The Art of Neighboring, 2012, Jay Pathak and Dave Runyon
4. The Simplest Way to Change the World, 2017, Dustin Willis and Brandon Clements
5. Joining Jesus, 2015, Greg Fink
6. Joining Jesus: Show Me How, 2017, Greg Fink



## Radically Ordinary Hospitality

56

1. A Six-Session resource to promote radically ordinary hospitality.
2. It contains:
  - Powerpoints
  - Reproducible Handouts
  - Discussion Guides
  - Implementation Guide
  - Reproducible Participant guide/journal
3. It is scheduled for release Feb 11, 2023



## *The Way of Biblical Hospitality*

57

### Session Overview: Session 1

- 3 Levels of Being a Witness
- False Assumptions about Witnessing
- Conversational Evangelism



#### 1. Admit your weak excuses:

- What if they don't like me?

---

## *The Way of Biblical Hospitality*

58

### Session Overview: Session 2

- An Overview of Biblical Hospitality
- Radically Ordinary Hospitality Self-Assessment
- Neighborhood Strategy Map



#### 1. Admit your weak excuses:

- What if they don't like me?

---

## *The Way of Biblical Hospitality*

59

### Session Overview: Session 3

- Creating a Safe Environment
- Barriers to the Practice of Radically Ordinary Hospitality
- Neighborhood Strategy Map



#### 1. Admit your weak excuses:

- What if they don't like me?

*The Way of Biblical Hospitality*

60

Session Overview: Session 4



- Best Practices for Radically Ordinary Hospitality
- Developing Hospitality Rhythms
- Mapping your Next Steps

*The Way of Biblical Hospitality*

61

Session Overview: Session 5



- How to Respond: Faith Under Fire
- Challenging Crucial Conversations
- Putting it into practice

*The Way of Biblical Hospitality*

62

Session Overview: Session 6



- How to Respond: Faith Under Fire
- Challenging Topics:
  - If you accepted me, you would approve of my choices.
  - How do we respond when a friend comes out as gay?
  - Claims about sexual orientation.
  - How to respond when we are invited to a same-sex couple wedding?