



The Christians in Corinth were called to be “city lights,” shining the light of Christ in a dark world. So how does your light shine in your neighborhood? This week, we unpack Paul’s seven lenses and ask how Christ would have us treat the people who live next door.

These questions are intended to deepen your experience of the message. Use them for your personal or family study time, or with an open Bible as you share the good news with your neighbor.

Group Ice-Breaker:

(1) Did you or your children grow up watching “Mr. Rogers?” What was good about his main message and style?

GOOD FENCES? Read Robert Frost’s Poem “Mending Wall.” Why does his friend say “good fences make good neighbors? Why does Frost say “something there is that doesn’t love a wall, that wants it down?” Frost suggests that walls both wall “in” and wall “out” and that they can “give offense.” Discuss.

JESUS AND WALLS. Read **Ephesians 2:13-15**. Ancient Israel literally had walls to separate out the Jews from the Gentiles, the males from the females, the holy from the unholy, Why does Paul use the language of tearing down the middle “wall” between us in the death of Jesus?

LOVING NEIGHBORS. Read **Mark 12:30-31**. What does it mean to love your neighbor? **Read 1 Cor 10:24**.

BE A NEIGHBOR. Read **1 Corinthians 5:9-13**. The first thing Paul says about “how to be a good neighbor” is to simply “be a neighbor”—that is, live among them. Why is it tempting to “escape” from people instead of rubbing shoulders with them? How did Jesus “live among them”?

DON’T BE A BAD NEIGHBOR. Read **1 Corinthians 6:1-6, 8**. The second thing Paul says is to make sure you don’t live worse than the world around you. Even the pagan societies settled differences without dragging each other to court all the time. How is suing your brother a sign of a bad neighbor?

BE THE BEST POSSIBLE NEIGHBOR. Read **1 Cor 6:7**. Why should you choose to lose? How does this prove to be a good neighbor? **Read Phil 2:5-8**.