



## **A PASSION FOR LIFE...**

### **Session 2 Loving our Neighbours**

“...You know how we lived among you for your sake. [6] You became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you welcomed the message in the midst of severe suffering with the joy given by the Holy Spirit. [7] And so you became a model to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia. [8] The Lord’s message rang out from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia—your faith in God has become known everywhere...”

### **1 Thessalonians 1:5-8 (NIV)**

## **Questions**

1. What communities has God called you to? Think about where you live, work, study and any hobby and sports groups. Are there any communities you could try to get involved in?
2. How can you be more intentional about praying for those in that community to come to know Jesus? Are there other Christians in this community who could pray with you?
3. Once you’ve pictured your communities, which of these comes more naturally in the way you interact with them – loving dearly or speaking clearly? Which do you need to be more intentional about?
4. Thinking about the communities you’re involved in, how could you love the community more? How could you be a light for Jesus there? Is there a role you could take on to serve others, care for and build up the community?
5. Brainstorm some ways you can share about and speak clearly to people in your communities about Jesus.

## Further Bible Reflection

"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth" John 1:14 (ESV)

"For the Son of Man came to seek and save the lost" Luke 19:10 (ESV)

"that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation." 2 Corinthians 5:19 (ESV)

**Comment:** The 'Incarnation' is first and foremost about the person of Christ and the uniqueness of the God/Man Jesus. Jesus entered into our world, shared in our experience and came to transform lives and communities. And, we are called to be his ambassadors, his hands and feet and mouthpiece in our world.

What we do and say should clearly be governed and inspired by what we believe.

**Discuss:** Seeing that Jesus came to seek and save the lost, think of some ways in which we could intentionally place ourselves in contact with our neighbours/those in our communities to have the opportunity to love and share the gospel with them.

## Take Home

Why not re-watch the video with a notebook open, praying that God will root these principles into your heart. Watch here:

[apassionforlife.org.uk/lc2-view](http://apassionforlife.org.uk/lc2-view)

To help you be more intentional in your relationships with people in your community and move into a deeper friendship with them, you may like to:

- Write a list of the people in your communities.
- Ask yourself what kind of relationships are there. You could mark them as either acquaintances, occasional friends or deep friendships.
- Think about how you could move towards a deeper friendship with them.
- Make a plan for the steps you could take.
- Plan to revisit the list and steps regularly to help you keep intentional.
- Check out the book "Made for friendship: The relationship that halves our sorrows and doubles our joys" by Drew Hunter

## Prayer

- Thank God that He is a relational God who humbly came in Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost.
- Ask God to help you be involved and active in building community and friendships with those in our lives.
- Ask God to lead those in our communities to Him and to help you love dearly and speak clearly to them about the gospel