

NEIGHBORING TOOLKIT

THE TOOLS WE NEED TO LOVE OUR NEIGHBORS

MARK 10:17-31

BELOW IS A BRAINSTORM OF THE PHYSICAL, RELATIONAL, MENTAL, SPIRITUAL AND EMOTIONAL TOOLS THAT CAN BE USEFUL IN NEIGHBORING. THIS IS BY NO MEANS A COMPREHENSIVE LIST, RATHER A GOOD WAY TO GET US THINKING OF ALL THE GIFTS GOD HAS GIVEN YOU TO LOVE THE PEOPLE AROUND YOU.

1

PHYSICAL // OUR STUFF

- ✓ Place (house, yard, common areas)
- ✓ Money
- ✓ Food (make & share, or borrow)
- ✓ Firepit
- ✓ Tools & Equipment (Lawnmower, Snowblower, tools, etc.)
- ✓ Physical labor (acts of service)
- ✓ Vehicles (truck, trailer, etc.)
- ✓ Clothes, Coats, shoes

2

RELATIONAL // PEOPLE SKILLS & PEOPLE CONNECTIONS

- ✓ Friendliness / Genuine kindness
- ✓ Boundless Hospitality
- ✓ Curiosity—Listen, ask questions
- ✓ Honesty / Authenticity
- ✓ Your kids can be great relational connectors
- ✓ Your pets can also help build relational bridges
- ✓ Observation—Be the “eyes and ears”
- ✓ Peacemaking—Conflict mediation
- ✓ Encouragement—Find the positive in people
- ✓ Presence—Be there
- ✓ Patience—Slow down, pay attention
- ✓ Smile

3

MENTAL // KNOWLEDGE

- ✓ Story of God (Creation, Fall, Redemption, Restoration)
- ✓ Bible—Scriptures and stories that can be inserted into conversations
- ✓ Current Events—Know what’s happening in the world and in your community
- ✓ Experience from your work, life, family, parents, mentors
- ✓ Education
- ✓ Abilities / Skills
- ✓ Referrals—If you can’t help yourself, who do you know that can?
- ✓ Curiosity—Learn from your neighbors

4

SPIRITUAL // GIFTS THAT COME FROM GOD

- ✓ Discernment
- ✓ Trust / Faith
- ✓ Your Story of Faith
- ✓ Fruits of the Spirit
(love, joy, peace, patience, goodness, kindness, gentleness, faithfulness, self-control)
- ✓ Gifts of the Spirit
(teaching, evangelism, shepherding, prophecy, apostleship (leadership), etc.)
- ✓ Prayer
- ✓ Hospitality
- ✓ Compassion
- ✓ The Word of God
- ✓ Authenticity / Empathy / Encouragement
- ✓ Love
- ✓ Grace
- ✓ The Holy Spirit
- ✓ Listening (Listen until they have nothing more to say)

5

EMOTIONAL // INNER TRAITS (NOT NECESSARILY SPIRITUAL)

- ✓ Self Awareness—Understanding your emotions, knowing your strengths, weaknesses
- ✓ Self Regulation—The ability to control your emotions/impulses—you handle your anger, jealousy, etc.
- ✓ Motivation—Going after Neighboring with passion and drive but with the right motives and pace
- ✓ Emotional Intelligence / Intuition—How we read and handle conversations / room atmospher
- ✓ Empathy—Putting yourself in someone elses shoes—not quick to judge
- ✓ Social Skills—Manage disputes, build and maintain /relationships team, communicate well
- ✓ Drive / Passion—Relentless pursuit and love toward others
- ✓ Practice good no matter the results—Follow the Jesus Way, and don’t sweat it.

“ISN’T EVERYTHING YOU HAVE AND EVERYTHING YOU ARE
SHEER GIFTS FROM GOD?”

—I CORINTHIANS 4:7