

# Who Is My Neighbor?

## Bountiful South Stake Plan for Sharing the Gospel

### The Vision

We want every person living in our stake to know that we love them and want them to experience the joy of coming to know Jesus Christ better with us.

### The Promise

When we keep our covenants with Jesus Christ by making time to love, share, and invite, we will see miracles as the Lord works through us (Mosiah 18:8–10).

### Our Objectives

1. Every member or family in the stake will have a plan to share the gospel that:
  - a. Names the neighbors they will reach out to in love.
  - b. Outlines what they will do to build loving relationships, share their beliefs, and extend invitations.
2. Every ward will have a plan for sharing the gospel that supports member and family plans, including in the following ways:
  - a. The ward council will work with the ward mission leader to make sure everyone in the ward boundaries is included in a member or family plan.
  - b. Ward missionaries will be “mission consultants,” visiting members and families regularly to help them create their plan for sharing the gospel and to follow up and support.
  - c. Ward mission leaders will coordinate missionary support, including working with fulltime missionaries to schedule members to participate in teaching appointments and to coordinate finding and service activities.
  - d. The ward council will oversee and support meaningful activities that create natural opportunities to invite neighbors.
  - e. Elders quorum presidents will ensure that weekly ward missionary coordination meetings are happening.

For bishoprics, elders quorum and Relief Society presidencies, and ward mission leaders

## Monthly stake mission coordination meeting

Who: stake presidency representative, mission presidency representative, high council and stake Relief Society presidency representatives, ward mission leaders, and fulltime missionaries.

When and where: First Wednesday of every month at 8:30 pm in the stake high council room and via Zoom.

Purpose: (1) To align missionary work in the stake happening under the keys of the stake presidency and (2) to coordinate it with missionary work happening under the keys of the mission president.

Ward mission leaders report to stake leaders on items such as:

- Friends being taught
- Members who are involved
- How wards are facilitating meaningful finding activities
- Ongoing efforts to strengthen new and returning members.
- Share ideas on how to make weekly ward missionary coordination effective.

Ward mission leaders will coordinate with the fulltime missionaries on items such as:

- Scheduling teaching opportunities, including finding members to help teach friends.
- Discussing upcoming activities, service, and finding opportunities
- Confirming which ward mission leader will support the missionaries' weekly planning each week for that month.

## Supporting Weekly Planning

As missionaries plan each week, they should coordinate with the assigned ward mission leader or counselor in the elders quorum presidency. The assigned ward mission leader can help make sure open time is filled with meaningful work based on the needs of the ward and ideas from the ward mission coordination meetings.

For example, knocking on doors in the 20th Ward may be less effective than helping ward missionaries teach members there how to have meaningful conversations that lead to teaching situations. On the other hand, In the 7th and 36th Wards, there are a lot of rentals, and we have a hard time keeping up with who is there.

## Organizing the ward mission

Ward missions could be organized into districts around those who haven't yet accepted the invitation of Jesus Christ to come unto Him through baptism. This approach ensures invitations come naturally from a neighbor instead of a stranger two streets away.

### Role of the ward missionaries

Ward missionaries are ward mission consultants. Their role is to meet with individuals and families to help them create and implement plans to share the gospel. They provide ongoing support with ideas and best practices and follow up regularly to support members in having meaningful conversations with neighbors they may have known for many years.

### Individual and family plans for sharing the gospel

The ward plan for sharing the gospel includes and supports individual and family plans. Ward leaders invite every member and family to create their own plans for sharing the gospel. With input from the ward council, the elders quorum and Relief Society presidencies make sure that everyone who hasn't yet accepted the Savior's invitation to come unto Him through baptism is included in someone's plan.

Individual and family plans could include service opportunities, inviting neighbors to dinner or other get-to-know-you activities, and how to have natural conversations about the gospel.

### Measuring success

Individuals and families measure their success based on whether they followed through on their plans to love, share, and invite, not on whether invitations were accepted.

Ward missionaries could measure their success based on helping individuals and families create a plan and supporting them in following through with their plans.

# Principles and Considerations: Ward Plans

## Principles for How Members and Missionaries Work Together

President Nelson has taught that as members of the Church of Jesus Christ, “we have the sacred and covenant responsibility to share the gospel of Jesus Christ” (Facebook, June 22, 2023).

Sharing the gospel and inviting all to come unto Jesus Christ is the work of all members. It is supported by fulltime missionaries but not handed over to them

Fulltime missionaries are called to teach the gospel. They ensure that all the necessary doctrine and commandments have been taught, and they prepare the individual for their baptismal interview.

Members should take the lead in building relationships with others, sharing the gospel and its blessings with them, and inviting them to learn more and participate with us in meaningful activities and worship. Members should participate in teaching their friends and neighbors.

### Building Relationships

The role of members: Members take the initiative in getting to know their neighbors and building genuine relationships. These natural connections create opportunities to share the blessings of the gospel.

The role of fulltime missionaries: Fulltime missionaries coordinate with ward mission leaders to assist with finding people to teach in locations where it can be difficult for members to do it alone, such as in large apartment complexes. Coordinating with ward mission leaders can help missionaries know where it would be most helpful to focus their finding efforts.

Weekly missionary coordination meetings (or “huddles”) should include discussions about meeting neighbors we don’t know yet.

### Sharing the Gospel

The role of members: Members should participate in teaching appointments whenever possible. It is best when these members are friends or neighbors who have already built

relationships of trust. They should be prepared to help teach, testify, and answer questions, including when missionaries can't make it because of last-minute schedule changes.

## Inviting

The role of members: As part of their plan to share the gospel, members should always be considering appropriate invitations they could extend to their friends.

Meaningful invitations could include:

- Inviting them over for activities in our homes.
- Joining us for worship and gospel learning.
- Attending special events, such as a baby blessings or baptisms.
- Participating in ward and community activities or service.

The role of the ward council: Create natural opportunities for members to invite their friends (see Handbook 23.1.3). They carefully consider opportunities to create activities to which families can naturally invite their friends. Activities could also happen at a street, family, or individual level. Wards could consider subsidizing these smaller activities.

The role of ward missionaries: Ward missionaries invite individuals and families to create plans for sharing the gospel. They meet regularly with members to offer guidance and receive updates on how invitation efforts are progressing.

## Scheduling

The role of ward mission leaders: Fulltime missionaries coordinate with ward mission leaders to schedule teaching appointments in the ward that involve members. Involving the ward mission leader ensures that, if an appointment needs to be rescheduled, the ward mission leader can arrange a new time when members are available to participate.

# Our Plan for Sharing the Gospel

## The Vision

We want every person in our stake to know that we love them and to feel the joy of coming to know Jesus Christ with us.

## The Promise

When we keep our covenants with Jesus Christ by making time to love, share, and invite, we will see miracles as the Lord works through us (Mosiah 18:8–10).

## Our Commitments

1. We will identify specific neighbors to bless.
2. We will prioritize time each week:
  - To build loving relationships
  - To seek opportunities to share
  - To consider invitations to extend

## Our Goals

*Putting our commitments into practice*

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

### Example Goals

- Prayerfully find a way to reach out to my neighbors once per week.
- Share with each neighbor monthly how the Lord has helped me.
- Invite a neighbor into my home each month.

## Our Plans

*Use this space to make specific plans for each neighbor this week or month. Revisit and update regularly.*

Neighbor	Our Plan to Love, Share, and Invite