

# ←← LIVING SENT →→

## Week Five: Who's Your One?

### INTRODUCTION

Relationships. This has been the topic of conversation for the past four weeks. First, we reflected upon the importance of people. Then, we discussed overcoming the challenges of getting to know our neighbors. Next, we helped each other learn ways to become more hospitable. Last week, we were challenged to be intentional in our conversations with others by inviting them to church and following up on important areas of life.

This week, we are going to bridge the gap between building relationships and sharing the gospel with a simple question: Who's Your One? "Who's Your One?" is a short way of asking, "Who is one non-christian person that you are intentionally praying for and sharing the gospel?"

### BIBLICAL MATERIAL

In 2 Corinthians 5:16, the apostle Paul writes these words, "From now on, then, we do not know anyone from a worldly perspective." Let's break this down. "From now on, then,...." This phrase creates a pivot point in the life of every Christian. We all had a life before Christ. We did not believe the gospel. We were not children of God. Yet, once we received salvation in Christ through faith in the gospel, we were brought into the family of God. We were given abundant life. This is the pivot point Paul is speaking of: enemies of God to children of God. This pivot point changes everything.

"[W]e do not know anyone from a worldly perspective." One area of life that changes, due to this pivot, is our perspective. Specifically, it changes how we see people. We do not see people with the perspective of the world. The world sees people as objects to get jobs done. The world sees people as tools to get what it wants. The world sees people as traffic.

In contrast, our salvation should cause us to look at people from a heavenly perspective. We have already looked at one element of heaven's perspective in week one: Image Bearers. People are made in the image of God. Unfortunately, here the story makes a turn. Although we are all made in the image of God, we have all rebelled against God. This makes us God's enemies, as stated before. Yet, in His great love for us, God has made a way for us to be reconciled with Him. Through faith in Jesus' work on the cross, we can mend our relationship with God. Now, there are only two categories of people from heaven's perspective: 1) People that are reconciled to God or 2) People that are not reconciled to God. This could be said in another way: people looking forward to an eternity of hope or people looking to an eternity of hell.

This is a sobering reality. From a worldly perspective, we can create various descriptions for people. From a heavenly perspective, there are only two. This should change how we build relationships. Our relationships should have eternity in mind. Therefore, let's ask again, "Who's your one?" It is very likely we know someone far from God - someone living their life separated from the love of God shown through Jesus Christ. Who is that person in your life and how are you intentionally engaging them with the gospel?

# ←← LIVING SENT →→

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### MISSIONARY TASK RELEVANCY

As stated before, this level of relational intentionality is the bridge between making friends and living life on mission. Relationships are the means by which the gospel is most effectively spread. People do not care what you know until they know that you care. From heaven's perspective, gospel silence is the most uncaring way we can treat our non-christian friends. Who's your one?



### LIFE APPLICATION

As we turn our attention to application, let's do some quick math. Imagine if 100 people took a who's your one challenge? (Selecting one person in their life to intentionally pray for and share the gospel.) Imagine if half of their "ones" became Christians. We would now have 150 Christians among us. Now, imagine if all 150 people took the challenge. Let's say half of their "ones" became Christians. We would now have 225 Christians. As you can see, this could happen over and over and over again. All this through the power of one Christian being intentional with one person. This does not happen through superstars. Jesus is the superstar. This happens through ordinary people living faithful lives. Are you willing to let God use you? Let's ask it again: Who's Your One?

- Have you applied any tips from the previous 4 sessions? How did it go?
- What is your initial response to this session?
- Are you more likely to view people through the grid of 2 Corinthians 5:16 or the grid of the world? How could you strive to change your perspective to a 2 Corinthians 5:16 perspective?
- Take a piece of paper and map out your relationships as shown on the video. Do you have non-christians in your relational web?
  - If you do not, what are some ways you could intentionally meet non-christians for evangelistic purposes?
- How do you build evangelistic relationships without making people projects?
- Who is your one? (Write down a list of everyone's "one" and pray for them by name every time your group gathers.)

### WEEK FIVE CHALLENGE

In Luke 10:2, Jesus says, "The harvest is abundant, but the workers are few. Therefore pray to the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into his harvest."

Pull out your phone and set a daily alarm for 10:02am. When this alarm goes off, pray that God would give you opportunities to share the gospel with your "one".