



Loving Your Neighbor Ideas

Meet Your Neighbors: Invite them over for coffee or a meal. Bring them cookies or loaf of bread (even if it's from the bakery), meet moms through your kids, attend neighborhood socials, get involved in a club, tennis team, or volunteer locally. Be prayerfully intentional!

New Neighbors: Look for "sold" signs...take a meal, brownies, or flowers to meet and welcome them. Put together a welcome packet of needed phone numbers, trash pick-up dates, area stores, churches, restaurants, etc. Make sure you leave them with a way to contact you. Be friendly and genuine.

New Baby: Drop by with baby gift or food. Look for opportunities to come alongside, pray for, and befriend a new mom. Take one of your kids with you. Why not adopt a neighbor's child to love on and show God's love to?

Women: Host coffees, teas, brunches, luncheons, birthday clubs (meet monthly and celebrate that month's birthday girls) wedding/baby showers, welcome home parties, surprise (30, 40, 50+) birthday parties. Gather together monthly to learn something new: sew, knit, garden, bake, etc. Host a Neighborhood Bible Study.

Children: Organize a babysitting co-op, Bible club, birthday party for Jesus, Easter party with the "Resurrection Eggs", or a Saturday pancake breakfast. Invite neighborhood children to church or a movie night with *The Story of Jesus for Children*, translated into 146 languages.

Teenagers: Open your home for youth gatherings. Host Young Life, Student Venture, or a church youth group and invite neighbor teenagers to attend. Go to local high school events, host 5th Quarter (after football game parties), and invite them over for pizza. Keep popcorn on hand or other cheap and easy snacks. Don't forget the soft drinks!

Families: Help organize a block party, neighborhood yard sale, or clean-up day. Plan a picnic, hike, build your own ice cream sundae party, or family movie night. Roast hot dogs and marshmallows in a backyard fire pit. Invite a family or two over for breakfast and then go to an Easter service together.

Couples: Plan a chili or soup cook-off, progressive dinner, supper club, or wild game night (hunters cook-up venison, buffalo burgers, etc.). Organize a movie or game night. Invest and invite!

Serve: Visit and/or provide meals for the sick and shut-ins. Run errands, clean house, do yard work for the elderly, single moms or others in need. Love on those who have lost loved ones. Be proactive! Don't wait for them to call you. Coordinate a street or neighborhood fund-raising event for a neighbor in need. Involve the whole family!