BEING SALT & LIGHT IN OUR COMMUNITY FOR GOD

Matthew 5:13-16
“Let me tell you why you are here. You’re here to be salt-seasoning that brings out the God-flavors of this earth. If you lose your saltiness, how will people taste godliness? You’ve lost your usefulness and will end up in the garbage.

“Here’s another way to put it: You’re here to be light, bringing out the God-colors in the world. God is not a secret to be kept. We’re going public with this, as public as a city on a hill. If I make you light-bearers, you don’t think I’m going to hide you under a bucket, do you? I’m putting you on a light stand. Now that I’ve put you there on a hilltop, on a light stand—shine! Keep open house; be generous with your lives. By opening up to others, you’ll prompt people to open up with God, this generous Father in heaven.” (The Message)

2 Corinthians 5:20
We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. (The Message)

ambassador n. [[ME ambassatour < MFr ambassaeur < OTt ambasciatore < Prov ambaissador < *amb(i)actos, a messenger, servant (>L ambactus, a vassal)] 1 the highest-ranking diplomatic representative appointed by one country or government to represent it in another 2 a special representative –Webster’s New World Dictionary

Question: How can we be effective __________________________ of God in our culture?
Answer: We can go to our sphere of influence and __________________________ to people there by leading roundtables that help them to be more __________________________.

John C. Maxwell’s Essentials of Success:

Attitude – The Difference Maker
Growth – The Pathway to Your Potential
Relationships – The Essential for Success
Character – The Foundation of a Good Life
Adding Value – The Doorway to Influencing Others
Living Intentionally – The Bridge to a Better Life
Faith – The True Picture of God (Optional Video)
What is a Roundtable?

A roundtable is a __________________________ discussion among four to ten people that employs open __________________________ among all participants and emphasizes the __________________________ of ideas through action.

Roundtables will be comprised of people you connect with and invite from your personal sphere of influence. You will meet together for 45 to 60 minutes once a week for six weeks at an agreed-upon location that is convenient for everyone. Your goal will be to learn and grow together as equals.

What is Your Role as a Facilitator?

As facilitator, your role is to create a positive and encouraging __________________________ where people will talk, learn and grow together. You are not a __________________________.

Differences between the old teaching method and the new roundtable approach:

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You have influence with others in your personal sphere of influence. Gather them into a circle with you at a roundtable you facilitate.
**Good Facilitators:**

- Provide and promote a positive __________________________.
- Speak less than __________________________ percent of the time.
- __________________________ everyone to talk openly about themselves.
- Prevent any one person from __________________________ the discussion.
- Model __________________________ and __________________________—when questions are tough, they answer __________________________!
- Take a back seat to the Holy Spirit and don’t try to __________________________ a spiritual agenda.

> “A thousand words will not leave so deep an impression as one deed.”
> – Henrik Ibsen

**Roundtables Are . . .**

1. Not __________________________ Studies.
2. Not __________________________ Groups.

**Roundtables Are Places to . . .**

1. __________________________ to People.
2. Develop Positive __________________________
3. Build __________________________
Who Do You Invite to the Roundtables?

The Seven Streams of Influence:

- Arts, Culture, Entertainment, and Sports
- Business
- Education
- Faith
- Family
- Government
- Media

Where do you have influence with people who are not Christians? Is it at your workplace? Is it in your neighborhood or community? Is it where you participate in a sport, a hobby, or another area of interest? Is it with members of your family?

Choose four to nine people with whom you have influence who would have good chemistry together in roundtable discussions. They must be people you care about and upon whom you want to make a positive impact.

Tell them that you will be hosting six free roundtables called “John C. Maxwell’s Essentials of Success,” and invite them to attend. Agree to a meeting time and a place conducive to discussion, such as your home, a meeting room, a coffee shop, etc. **Do not meet at church.**

What Do You Do During the Roundtables?

1. Make Everyone Feel ________________________.
2. Make the Time You Have ________________________.
3. Ask Participants to ________________________ Their Action Item from the Previous Week.
4. Read the Quote.
5. Show the Video of John Maxwell.
6. Facilitate the ________________________ by Asking the Questions.
7. Ask Everyone to ________________________ the “Personal Action Plan” Section.
8. Ask Everyone to ________________________ What Action They Want to Take in the Coming Week and Why They Want to Do it.
The Last Roundtable: “Living Intentionally – The Bridge to a Better Life”

Remind everyone that it is the last roundtable, and thank all of them for being a part of the group.

At the end of the video, John Maxwell says that there is one more thing that he is intentional about, but that he will share it in a separate video after the discussion. When the discussion is finished, close the group time. Then let people know that the additional video from John is optional, and tell them that John talks about his faith in it. If anyone doesn’t not want to stay to watch it, allow them to gracefully exit. Do not criticize them for or make them feel guilty for leaving.

If someone in your group makes a decision for Christ, offer to help him or her after the group. Try to connect them with a church and other believers.

Others may want to discuss faith with you. Be open to them and to whatever opportunities the Holy Spirit gives you. But do not try to coerce anyone or force your faith on them.

James 3:13

*Do you want to be counted wise, to build a reputation for wisdom? Here’s what you do: Live well, live wisely, live humbly. It’s the way you live, not the way you talk, that counts.*

(The Message)

Practice a Roundtable Together

With the people at your table, watch the video and engage in the discussion in the following roundtable....
“You don’t climb mountains without a team, you don’t climb mountains without being fit, you don’t climb mountains without being prepared and you don’t climb mountains without balancing the risks and rewards. And you never climb a mountain on accident—it has to be intentional.”
— Mark Udall

VIDEO

Question: What is the one thing you can do that will lift you to a higher level?

INTENTIONAL LIVING IS THE BRIDGE

Areas of Intentional Living

1. ________________________ — Taking Care of Yourself is Not a Selfish Act, It is a Sustaining Act.

2. ________________________ — Success is Having Those Who Know You the Best, Love and Respect You the Most.

3. ________________________ — How You Manage Each Day Determines Whether or Not You Maximize Your Time.

Time Thoughts:
1) Once you know what you value, you make better use of your time.
2) Never begin the day until it’s finished on paper.
3) Learn to say “no.”
4) Today matters.


• ________________________ — What Do I Have to Do to Do?
• ________________________ — What Do I Do Well?
• ________________________ — What Do I Love to Do?
DISCUSSION

1. Do you generally see good intentions as positive or negative? How do you think Maxwell sees them?

2. What are the main differences between people with good intentions and people who practice intentional living? Give as many specifics as you can.

3. Can you think of any successful person who lives without intentionality? If so, describe the person and how he or she achieved success. If not, explain why such people are hard to find.

4. Which do you naturally enjoy more: planning carefully or living spontaneously? Explain.

5. Which parts of your life are planned, strategic, and intentional? Which are opportunity-oriented, spontaneous, and serendipitous? Why do you approach them differently? What are the results of the different approaches?

6. Think about an area of your life where you have experienced major success. What role did intentionality play in it? Describe the process you went through.

7. What role does planning play in intentional living? What role does action play? What other factors do you believe may be essential? Describe what happens when one is missing.

8. Maxwell described four areas where he practices intentionality: health, family, time, and priorities. What are your top two to four areas where intentionality is important?

9. In what area do you need to become more intentional and why? What must you do to be more intentional?
PERSONAL ACTION PLAN
Take two minutes to complete the section below.

How do you rate yourself on intentional living on a scale from 1-10 (circle one)?

1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9  10

Why did you give yourself this rating?

_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________

What benefit would you like to receive by improving in this area?

_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________

If there is someone who exemplifies intentional living whom you admire, what traits does he or she exhibit?

_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________

What specific action will you take this week to live more intentionally? (Be prepared to report back next week on how you did.)

_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________

Take one minute to share with the group what action you intend to take this week and how you hope it will benefit you and others.
Next Steps

Now that you've heard the vision for how roundtables will be used by leaders so that they can go out and be salt and light in the community, and you have experienced a roundtable yourself, it's time to decide if you will commit to leading roundtables in this current effort.

Please choose one of the following.

- [ ] I do not wish to lead roundtables at this time.
- [ ] I want to lead roundtables, but I cannot at this time.
  Please contact me next time roundtables will be launched again.
- [ ] I would like to lead roundtables using "John C. Maxwell's Essentials of Success."
  I will sign up now to be a Roundtable Facilitator at JohnMaxwell.SynergyScape.com/register.