

RELATIONSHIP AS MISSION

# LOUNGE



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PRAYER

**Welcome to the lounge.  
Imagine your comfy seat,  
settle into it and relax.**

Generally, a lounge is a safe and restful space, where conversations and life are shared. It's a place where friends enjoy each other's company.

Relationships are at the heart of mission: firstly our relationship to Jesus, secondly our connection to our communities, and thirdly the community of 'saints' (our Christian brothers and sisters).

As we enter prayer now in this space, we pause to be still, to breathe slowly and re-centre our scattered senses upon the presence of Jesus. Thank him for the relationship you share.

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## *Pause and Pray*

**Matthew 28:19-20**, often referred to as the Great Commission:

*‘Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.’*

Ask yourself these questions based on the verses from Matthew:

1. What does it mean to ‘make disciples of all nations’ in the context of your personal relationships?

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2. How can you integrate the mission of spreading the gospel into your daily interactions with family, friends and colleagues?

3. What are some practical ways to teach others to obey Jesus' commands within your community?

4. How does the promise of Jesus' presence ('I am with you always') encourage you in your mission work?

5. In what ways can you support and encourage others in their mission efforts?

Reflecting on these questions can help deepen your understanding of how relationships and mission work together in the Christian life. Do any of these questions resonate with you or prompt further thoughts and prayers?

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Read through some practical steps to consider:

- 1. Build genuine relationships:** Invest time in getting to know people in your community. Show genuine interest in their lives, listen to their stories and build trust. Authentic relationships create a foundation for sharing your faith.
- 2. Share your story:** Be open about your faith journey and how it has impacted your life. Personal stories can be compelling and relatable, making the message of the gospel more accessible.
- 3. Offer support and encouragement:** Be a source of support for those in need. Whether it's through prayer, practical help or simply being present, your support can reflect God's love and care.

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**4. Serve together:** Engage in community service projects or volunteer work. Serving alongside others can strengthen relationships and provide opportunities to share your faith through actions.

**5. Pray for your community:** Regularly pray for the people you know in your community, asking God to open hearts and provide opportunities for you to share the gospel.

Which of these steps resonates with you the most? What will be your takeaway from this time of reflection and prayer?

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## *Prayer*

**Heavenly Father,**

We come before you with grateful hearts, acknowledging your love and grace in our lives. We thank you for the relationships you have blessed us with and the opportunities to share your love with others.

Lord, we ask for your guidance as we seek to fulfil the Great Commission. Help us to build genuine relationships that reflect your love and compassion. Give us the courage to share our faith and the wisdom to know when and how to speak your truth.

May our actions and words be a story of your goodness. Teach us to serve others

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selflessly, just as Jesus did, to be a source of encouragement and support for those around us.

We pray for open hearts and minds in our community. Use us as instruments of your peace and love, drawing others closer to you. Help us to see the needs of those around us and respond with kindness and generosity.

Lord, we trust in your promise that you are with us always. Strengthen us with your presence and fill us with your Spirit, so that we may boldly proclaim your name and make disciples of all nations.

In Jesus' name, we pray.

Amen.

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