

MISSION

▶ PRAYING

During the Gospel Living section, you explored the what, why, how, and where of missional living:

- **What is it?** Sharing in Jesus' mission to make the gospel known to all people
- **Why participate in it?** The love of God displayed in the gospel compels and empowers
- **How is it manifested?** By sharing in word and demonstrating by deeds
- **Where does it impact the world?** Across the street, track, and ocean

Now let's think about *who* missional living impacts. Who are the people that Christians make the gospel known to? They are those who are not believers, and those who may have other physical, economic, or spiritual needs. Sometimes Christians refer to these as *the least* and *the lost*. You may find the least and the lost across the street where you live, work, and play, or across the track in your community, or across the ocean.

One significant element of missional living is growing in the grace commitment of missional praying for the least and lost. And this is best done by specifically praying for individuals or groups rather than generally for all the least and lost. As you develop the grace commitment of praying regularly for specific people, God will begin leading you into opportunities to make the gospel known to them through word and deed.

Creating a short list of people to pray for is the first step in developing a regular habit of praying for specific people. Who will you put on your list? Ask yourself these questions:

- **Who are the people (individuals or groups) that I am concerned about?**
- **Who are the people that respect my influence?** (e.g. friends, children, spouse, neighbors and colleagues)
- **What are the needs in my community?** (refer to the list of needs you created in Unit 3 of Gospel Living)

Your Mission assignment this week is to create a list of people for whom you will regularly pray throughout this year of *The Journey*. You will want to pray specifically for each person or group on your list, but your general focus should be that God would meet their needs

and give you opportunities to make the gospel known to them through word and deed. Create your prayer list on the next page following the example provided. Then begin praying daily for these people and be prepared to discuss your prayer list at your next Journey Group meeting.

EXAMPLE:

Name: *Tony*

Relationship: *Friend, neighbor, and occasional tennis partner*

Situation/Need: *Tony grew up in church but isn't a believer as far as I know. He is successful in his profession, but is divorced and sometimes feels bitter about it.*

Prayer Goal: *I want God to use me to help Tony see that hope and purpose are found in Christ alone and don't depend on his marital situation or professional success.*

PRAYER LIST

Person/Group:

Relationship:

Situation/Need:

Prayer Goal:

Person/Group:

Relationship:

Situation/Need:

Prayer Goal:

Person/Group:

Relationship:

Situation/Need:

Prayer Goal:

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