



30-Day Church Action Plan for **SERVING YOUR NEIGHBORS**

With these five proven steps, your church can be actively serving community members in just one month. No overwhelming planning is required—just practical actions that create an immediate impact while building a sustainable ministry.



STEP 1: HOST ONE COMMUNITY LISTENING SESSION

- ☐ Invite 15-20 diverse neighbors (different backgrounds, influence levels)
- ☐ Serve a simple meal or dessert
- ☐ Ask: "What are the biggest challenges in our community?" and "Who gets overlooked?"
- ☐ Take notes and follow up with participants



STEP 2: SURVEY YOUR CONGREGATION'S SKILLS

- ☐ Create a simple interest card asking: "What skills do you have?" and "How much time can you give monthly?"
- ☐ Look for "hidden" skills: mechanics, hairdressers, HR professionals, teachers, etc.
- ☐ Pass out the interest cards during Sunday service with the offering plate collection



STEP 3: MATCH SKILLS TO COMMUNITY NEEDS

- ☐ Connect what you learned in Step 1 (community needs) with Step 2 (member skills)
- ☐ Create 2-3 immediate service opportunities based on these matches
- ☐ Start with simple, low-barrier activities



STEP 4: CREATE CLEAR ENTRY POINTS

- ☐ Design a one-page flyer with those 2-3 specific volunteer opportunities from Step 3
- ☐ Make each opportunity require different time commitments
- ☐ Utilize a QR code on the flyer directing people to easily and quickly sign up to volunteer
- ☐ Promote that QR code on your worship slides and other locations for maximum reach



STEP 5: PROVIDE BASIC TRAINING BEFORE FIRST SERVICE

- ☐ Offer 30-minute "just-in-time" training right before volunteers serve
- ☐ Focus on confidence-building, not expertise
- ☐ Emphasize: "You don't need to be an expert to help."

Once you've completed these five steps, take a few months to analyze your results. Here are a few helpful questions to get you started:

- ❓ How many community members were served?
- ❓ How many members volunteered to serve?
- ❓ How many new visitors were welcomed into your services as a result of your outreach efforts?
- ❓ Were you able to meet the needs you discovered in your listening session?

As you move forward, consider these ideas to expand your strategy:

- 💡 Partner with local schools and nonprofits with established programs
- 💡 Recruit church members to take weekly prayer walks through your neighborhood
- 💡 Utilize technology for demographic data to better understand who you're trying to reach