

FEBRUARY 2/3

# GET OUTSIDE: LOCAL

JESSE TINK  
PASTOR OF CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT

## INTRODUCTION

Last week, Pastor John explained the most effective way to approach global missions is to build relationships with local leaders and empower them to achieve their own goals, resulting in community transformation. This week, Pastor Jesse concludes the *Get Outside* series by focusing on serving with local partners who make God, Jesus and His church the hero.

## DISCUSSION

1. Share a story about serving a local partner or local ministry. How did it impact your spiritual life? Why is it important to serve in such a way that those in need look beyond you, and your act of kindness, and see Jesus? Discuss specific ways you can let Jesus shine through as you serve.
2. **Read Matthew 6:9-10.** What does this passage teach us about becoming more like Jesus and being driven to be on mission for Him?
3. Do you know anyone who has benefitted from services received from a local partner or ministry? Tell their story (no names). How did their experience change your perspective about those in need?
4. **Read Matthew 28:18-20.** Accepting Jesus means accepting this commission. Challenge your small group to serve together at one of our local partners. Make specific commitments, and hold each other accountable.

## DO SOMETHING

1. Sometimes our urge to help causes us to do more harm than good and damage the dignity of those in need. Consider reading as a group a resource to prepare you for healthy missions work in your community. *When Helping Hurts* is a renowned book that explores this important topic and would be a great group study guide.
2. Contact someone in your Little Iowa who has been reluctant to come to church, and ask them to serve with you at a local partner.
3. Serving with local partners should not be regarded as a special event but as part of your rhythm of engagement at PLC. Is this true for you? If not, what are your next steps?

## RESOURCES

Sign up for a free RightNow Media account at [prairielakeschurch.org](http://prairielakeschurch.org).

1. *Don't Wait to Serve* tells the story of a teenager who stepped out of her comfort zone and discovered God equipped her to serve where she's needed.
2. In this video, Bryant White explains how becoming a Great Commission congregation can transform the church and surrounding community.
3. *Live a Better Story* explains how three young men decided to make a difference by serving in their community after being inspired by *A Million Miles in a Thousand Years: How I Learned to Live a Better Story*.
4. In *Work is a Mission Field*, J.D. Greear challenges us to integrate faith with our work and "do missions" in the workplace.