



Bold Faith Groups

Monday 7:00 p.m.

Hosts: Scott & Jan Carpenter 587 Scott Drive, Coldwater Contact: Melissa Houtz

517-617-5797

Wednesday 6:00 p.m.

Sunday 6:30 p.m.

824 Gilead Lake Road

Contact: Dave Minard

Hosts: Bob and Bridget Mayer

Tijuana Missions

517-756-8000

Hosts: Solano and Jennie deAraujo 974 Dewsenberry Road, Bronson

Contact: Frank Cabrera

517-369-9783

Thursday 1:00 p.m.

Host: Sara Jane Fair 1005 S.Snow Prairie Road, Bronson

Contact: Jim Erwin 517-756-8001

Thursday 6:30 p.m.

Hosts: The Evans

655 West Chicago Street, Bronson

Contact: Mary Jo Evans

369-4506

Thursday 6:30 p.m.

Hosts: Bill and Linda Penn 247 West Nettleman Road, Bronson

Contact: Brandon Carpenter

989-277-5988 (kid-friendly)





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Bold Faith

Group Discussion Guide -- week 4

This is the fourth and final week of this year's Bold Faith Initiative. Twenty eight churches in Branch County have come together to focus on Christ's command to "Love your neighbors".

How has this experience been for you? Is there something personal you sense God saying to you through the sermon series, the devotional readings, or our small group discussions? Are you convicted by Jesus' saying that the number two command of God for you is to love your neighbor as yourself? Are you becoming more aware of the people who live around you? Can you identify any specific ways you are changing your schedule in order to make more time to befriend neighbors?

Open your group with prayer. Ask God to give each of you a specific application to the neighboring series.

I. Jesus, as an expert teacher, frequently called people to respond to his messages. Read *Matthew 7:24-29*. What does it mean to teach with authority? Who is a higher authority in life than Jesus? When we call him "Lord" what are we implying?

Jesus' closing analogy for the Sermon on the Mount is about two builders. Review the story and explain what exactly he was trying to illustrate. What's the primary difference between the wise and foolish hearers of Christ's word?

- II. Now look up the following passages and discuss how each relates to the idea that wise people put in practice Jesus' teaching: <u>James 1:22-25</u>, <u>John 8:31-32</u>, <u>John 15:7-14</u>, <u>Matthew 28:19-20</u>, <u>1 John 2:3-6</u>. When is disobedience to God advisable? So why is it often a struggle to obey? Be specific. Is there a remedy for disobedience to God?
- III. Go back to the Great Commandment. Read <u>Matthew 22:36-40</u>. Jesus tells us that God wants us to love our neighbors, including the people who live around us. If we love God, disobedience is not an option. God cares about our neighbors and placed us in our neighborhoods as his representatives to extend his love to others. That's our assignment, not just during Bold Faith, but always. Will you embrace your calling?

Close your group by praying for your neighbors. Ask God to use you to make a difference for Christ in your neighborhood. Then be alert for opportunities as they arise in the days ahead.



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