

Introducing People to Jesus

The gospel is so good we can't keep it bottled up on Sundays. It spills over into our everyday. As it does, our vision, that **our friends without faith will see and hear how much God truly loves them on a daily basis**, begins to materialize.

Join others in Soma Eastside for the Gospel Two-Step this year. The Gospel Two-Step is one of the ways we live out our identity as salt and light (Matthew 5:13-16) and how we become people who introduce our friends to Jesus.

STEP 1 - FOCUS ON A HANDFUL OF FRIENDS WHO HAVE NOT MET JESUS YET

Most of us have a lot of different people in our lives; uncles, cousins, parents, and grand-parents, neighbors, co-workers. We have friendships which we have cultivated over years together in school or playing on the same team. If we made a list, it would fill an entire page.

Each person is unique in their relationship with us, and their view on the world. Some are close and others are more distant, but we genuinely care about all of them. One thing I have learned over the years, however, is that I don't have what it takes to be close friends with everyone on my list. My energy on a given week is divided between responsibilities for work, and responsibilities at home. There are only so many hours in the day and only so many days in a week. If you are like me, you need discernment and wisdom to pick a handful of friends from the list and focus on them. Start with two, two unbelieving friends, who have not yet embraced the good news. Who are they? What are their names?

Write them down and put them in your Bible, in your phone, or somewhere you will see them.

STEP 2 - PRAY FOR THESE FRIENDS EVERYDAY

We only have time for so many things in a given day. We have time to eat, time to work, time to read the news, or get caught up on current events. What does it mean when we say we can't make time for something? It might mean we are *really* busy. Or it could mean something else. It could mean that we are afraid of doing it like filing our taxes or going to the dentist. Or it could be that our heart is just not into it. Making time for prayer every day is a concrete way to prioritize these friendships in your life. Pick a time every day that you can plan to stop and pray for your friends. In ancient times people would often pray at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. Whenever it is, set that time aside in your calendar as your prayer time and begin to daily lift up these friends to God. Ask God to bless them and to give them a spiritual thirst. Mark 1:35 tells us that Jesus would rise very early in the morning, "while it was still dark, he

departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed." By the power of the Holy Spirit we can do the same thing.

We call these the Gospel 2- Step. Will you join us in this?

We would love to see 100 people on this journey in 2019 and we want to encourage you and send you further steps to introduce your friends to Jesus. To sign up for the Gospel 2-Step for 2019 email Admin@somaeastside.org with "Gospel 2-Step" in the subject line.

Knowing Jesus is like being friends with the top doctor in your state, and having their cell phone number in your back pocket. He is the Great Physician who can heal our souls and who is available to us 24/7. He truly knows what we need before we ask him. And having a personal relationship with him makes life so much richer- no matter how intense the pressure is which we are facing.

Our friends may not want to hear about our faith right now, but if they ever face a crisis, they will likely be happy to discover we have been praying for them.