

# THE NEXT ONE



## Getting Started

Who's one person who poured into your life and changed you forever?

Who is one person you've reached out to and have seen their lives change?

## Going deeper

God calls us to reach people here, there and everywhere. Take a moment to read the following verses again that define God's purpose for us in the world.

[Acts 1:8](#)

[Matthew 25:37-40](#)

Those verses are challenging but also overwhelming when you think about all the need there is in this world. Take a moment to read the following statistics and talk about which of them you are most overwhelmed by?

- There are 795 people in the world who go to bed hungry. That's one out of every nine people in the world.
- 45.5 million people in our world currently find themselves in some form of slavery.
- 10.3 people around the world are in prison.
- 140 million children worldwide are orphans.

When we hear about all these issues everywhere it's so overwhelming because this is how we read it. We need to reach everyone here, and everyone there and everyone everywhere. We are not asking you to do that. I don't believe Jesus is asking you to do that. We are simply asking you to reach one.

Take a moment to read the following passages. Notice the great lengths Jesus did for the one.

[Mark 4:35-41](#)

[Mark 5:1-17](#)

Take a moment to discuss the following idea and how it might change your approach to reaching people:

“Do for one what you wish you could do for everyone.” - Andy Stanley

How easy for you is it to fall into this way of thinking instead?

*-I'm going to do for no one because I can't do for everyone.*

What do the following statements mean to you with regard to reaching out to people?

- Go deep rather than go wide
- Go long term rather than short term

Take a moment to read and discuss this classic story

### The Starfish Story

A young man is walking along the ocean and sees a beach on which thousands and thousands of starfish have washed ashore. Further along he sees an old man, walking slowly and stooping often, picking up one starfish after another and tossing each one gently into the ocean. “Why are you throwing starfish into the ocean?,” he asks. “Because the sun is up and the tide is going out and if I don’t throw them further in they will die.” “But, old man, don’t you realize there are miles and miles of beach and starfish all along it! You can’t possibly save them all, you can’t even save one-tenth of them. In fact, even if you work all day, your efforts won’t make any difference at all.” The old man listened calmly and then bent down to pick up another starfish and threw it into the sea. “It made a difference to that one.”

Who is the person in your life that you feel like God is calling you to reach out to so that you can say “It made a difference to that one?”

