

Straight Street For Church Planters
Appendix C – *Person of Peace

Scripture Helps:

I. What is God saying to me in His Word?

Read these verses:
John 4:7-45; Mark 5:1-20; Acts 16:13-15; Acts 10 and Acts 16:22

II. What is God saying to me through others?

Answer the following questions using the verses you just read and the Characteristics of a *Person of Peace chart on page 6. Answer as openly and honestly as you can.

Which of these people would you have invited to your home or church before their encounter with Jesus?

Reflection and Thoughts

Why would you have invited them to your home or church?

Whom would you not have invited to your home or church? Why?

What impact do you suppose it would have on your spouse and family if you invited one of these people to your home?

What impact do you suppose it would have on your core group or members of your church if you invited one of these people to your home?

Take a moment and share your response with your spouse and family. What was their reaction? Was it similar or different to the response that you just wrote? Why?

Have you ever invited someone to your home that fits the description of those listed on the Person of Peace chart? Describe the person and why you felt compelled to invite him or her to your home.

III. What is it that I am supposed to be doing?

The beginning point for many ministries' outreach is to find God's "person of peace" – a person who has been cultivated by God and is ready for your ministry effort. The receptivity of this person is high. At this point, it is more important to take the church to the person rather than extract this person out of his or her *oikos* (household or world). Build relationships where he or she feels secure and comfortable.

Use the chart to identify the names of possible Persons of Peace in your context. List their characteristics and the relationship that you need to build with them.

Name of Person of Peace	His/Her Characteristics	What is the relationship that I need to build with this person?

Take a moment and pray for each of these people by name. Ask God to give you opportunities to develop a meaningful relationship with them.

As you begin to work in the person of peace's environment, the next most probable people who will be receptive to the gospel will be his or her family. Encourage the person of peace to begin as soon as possible to witness to family members. Where relationships are strained or severed, work to begin the healing process that can lead to reconciliation.

Use the chart to identify the names of possible family members of a Person of Peace in your context. List their characteristics and the relationship that you need to build with them.

Name of Family Member of Person of Peace	His/Her Characteristics	What is the relationship that I need to build with this person?

Take a moment and pray for each of these people by name. Ask God to give you opportunities to develop a meaningful relationship with them.

Ultimately the person of peace will begin to share with his or her closest friends. You may even be included in this close circle to minister. It should always, however, be the goal to disciple the new convert to become the primary minister within his or her group. Your role is to equip others to minister.

Use the chart to identify the names of possible friends of a Person of Peace in your context. List their characteristics and the relationship that you need to build with them.

Name of Friend of Person of Peace	His/Her Characteristics	What is the relationship that I need to build with this person?

Take a moment and pray for each of these people by name. Ask God to give you opportunities to develop a meaningful relationship with them.

Four Characteristics of a Person of Peace

Characteristics	Woman at Well John 4:7-45	Demoniac Mark 5:1-20	Lydia Acts 16:13-15	Cornelius Acts 10	Philippian Jailer Acts 16:22
Receptive	She was open to the words of Jesus (15). She was honest with Jesus (17).	He came to Jesus on his own (1). He beseeched Jesus (18).	She listened to Paul's teaching (14). God opened her heart to Paul's message (14).	He was receptive of the angel (4). He was eager to hear the Lord's message through Peter (33).	He received the word of the Lord (31-32). His family was receptive of the gospel (16:34). Asked what he should do to be saved (30).
Reputation	She was known negatively among her community (16-18).	He was known as a strong man (2-4). Observed by others (15).	Dealer of purple cloth (14). A worshiper of God (14).	He was a Centurion (1). He and his family were devout and God-fearing, generous and people of prayer (2). He was respected by all the Jewish people (22).	He was a trusted guard. The judges charged the jailer to keep watch over Paul and Silas (23). He bound the wounds of Paul and Silas and brought them home with him (33-34).
Responsive	She engaged Jesus in conversation (9-12, 25). She shared her religious understandings (9, 19-20).	He obeyed Christ; he proclaimed the gospel (20).	The Lord opened her heart to respond to Paul's message (14).	Called his servants and a soldier – shared the vision with them (7-8). He sent for Peter immediately (32).	He was obedient to those in authority over him (23-24). He bound the wounds of Paul and Silas and brought them home with him (33-34).
Relational	She told others about Jesus (28-30, 39-42).	Went to others (5:19).	She shared Christ's message with her household; they were baptized (15). She invited Paul and Silas to stay in her home after their discharge from prison (15).	He called together his family and close friends to meet with Peter (24). He was reverent to Peter (25).	He washed Paul and Silas' wounds and brought them to his house and fed them (16:33-34).

*We want to acknowledge the work of Doc Lindsey, Charles Brock, and Mosaic Church (formally known as Church on Brady, CA) for their contribution and development of the concept of the Person of Peace and/or the Holy Spirit Prepared Person.