



Halloween offers a great opportunity for us to engage in new relationships with those around us or to revisit old relationships with intentionality. Regardless of what you think of Halloween and its roots, the neighbors we have been sent to will participate. This gives us a wide-open door for engagement in our neighborhoods. I want to encourage you not to miss out on the opportunity.

Here are a few ideas for how we can engage those we have been SENT to where we live.

BE HOSPITABLE

1. Give out the Best Candy and Think of the Parents

Become the house all the kids talk about. Have some hot apple cider and pumpkin bread or muffins for the parents. Create an environment where they can hang out a bit.

2. Be Present and Encouraging

Set up on the porch or driveway. When neighbors stop to have some cider, get to know their names and where they live. Tell the kids you love their costumes and to have a great night. Build others up with words.

3. Party

Throw a Pre-Trick-or-Treating-Party. Provide food and drinks. Send one spouse out trick or treating with the kids while the other spouse continues hanging out and giving out candy.

4. Learn the Stories

As you trick-or-treat with others or give out candy with others, ask questions...get to know their stories. Look for opportunities to serve them later.

GO TO THEIR PLACE

5. Attend the Party or Join the Community

If others are throwing parties, join them. Bring drinks, food, or whatever is needed. Help clean up. If your community has key events, join them, and invite neighbors to go with you.

BE PRAYERFUL

6. Pay Attention

Ask the Spirit to open your eyes and ears to the needs around you. Listen, care, and serve them.

SHARE YOUR IDEAS on social media. What have you done? What are you planning to do?

Adapted from an [ARTICLE](#) by Jeff Vanderstelt.