

PROSPER THE CITY

▼
WEEK 1
WHO

WEEK 2
WHAT

WEEK 3
HOW

WEEK 4
SERVE

ABOUT WEEK 1

In Week 1 of Prosper the City, before your team plans your project, you'll start by discovering WHO you are. Using a creative exercise called Asset Mapping, your team will approach the project from the perspective of what's possible instead of what's needed. At the end of your time together you'll brainstorm opportunities to serve using your team's identified assets.

TIME NEEDED

60 – 70 minutes

ITEMS NEEDED

- Easel pad
- Markers
- Post-It notes

CHECKLIST BEFORE YOUR GROUP ARRIVES

- Pray for the group
- Print Discussion Guide
- Refreshments (optional)
- Clean meeting area
- Clean bathroom
- Crack open front door

OPENING (5-7 MIN)

Briefly welcome everyone and say: Hello! And welcome to our Prosper the City team! We have three weeks to plan a service project on the fourth week that makes an immediate impact in our community.

QUICK QUESTION—HOW MANY OF YOU GUYS HAVE DONE A PROSPER THE CITY PROJECT BEFORE AND WHAT DID YOU DO?

3 QUESTIONS (7-10 MIN)

After a discussion, say: One of the things we think it's important to do before we get into planning is to spend time in God's Word.

CAN I GET A VOLUNTEER TO READ MATTHEW 5:13-16 ALOUD FOR US AND THEN WE'LL ASK THREE FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS?

After the reading, say: Okay, let's do some brainstorming on the whiteboard here—

Divide the sheet into three horizontal sections and write PEOPLE, JESUS, and PROJECT at the top of each section, respectively. As people answer, write them on the appropriate section of the easel pad.

WHAT DOES THIS ACCOUNT TELL US ABOUT PEOPLE? (OURSELVES OR OTHERS)

WHAT DOES THIS ACCOUNT TELL US ABOUT JESUS?**WHAT DOES THIS ACCOUNT TELL US ABOUT OUR PROJECT?****ASSET MAPPING: GROUPS (5-7 MIN)**

Say: With the lessons from today's reading in mind, let's get into our planning! To do so, we're going to see WHO we are as a team by doing something called "Asset Mapping". Asset Mapping is basically listing the assets, or things of value, each one of us brings to the team. We'll break our assets down into three parts: GROUPS, ABILITIES, and PASSIONS.

Give everyone a marker and stacks of three distinctly colored Post-It notes.

ON A [NAME A COLOR] POST-IT NOTE, TAKE 60 SECONDS TO WRITE DOWN (IN BIG LETTERS!) AS MANY GROUPS (NETWORKS, ORGANIZATIONS, NEIGHBORHOODS) YOU CAN THINK OF THAT YOU ARE A PART OF, ONE GROUP PER NOTE.

Say, "Go!" Remembers, your energy level gives them a cue on how to respond!

While they're writing, write the category title ("GROUPS") on a Post-It note in big letters and stick it on a wall or easel near each group.

OKAY, LET'S TAKE 1 MINUTE AND SHARE YOUR ANSWERS WITH EVERYONE ELSE IN A RAPID-FIRE STYLE. AS YOU DO, STICK THEM TO THE WALL/EASEL/TABLE IN A WORD CLOUD STYLE AROUND THE NOTE LABELED "GROUPS".

ASSET MAPPING: ABILITIES (5-7 MIN)

Repeat the same exercise for ABILITIES on a different color Post-It Note.

ASSET MAPPING: PASSIONS (5-7 MIN)

Repeat the same exercise for PASSIONS on a different color Post-It Note.

CONSOLIDATING ASSETS (3 MIN)

Once you're done with the three Post-It Notes, say: If you'll notice, we're now thinking from a vantage point of possibility, not from a place of scarcity or need. The community isn't something negative thing to fix, it's an opportunity to use what we have and serve!

CAN WE SEE ANY KIND OF PATTERN BETWEEN OUR GROUPS/ABILITIES/PASSIONS?

Based on your team's reaction, cluster any similar Post-It notes together.

BRAINSTORMING WHAT (10 MIN)

Say: So that's WHO we are, to close we're going to look at WHAT needs we see. Partner up with someone.

One of you volunteer to be a scribe. The scribe will write on a new color of Post-It note, one idea per note. You're going to take a few minutes and talk through WHAT needs you see in the community. Not the WHERE, but the WHAT. For instance, don't say "Miss Andersons house needs repair", write two notes, one for "home projects" and one for "the elderly". Start by

thinking of ideas close to where you live, and don't overlook the small things that need to be done!

Start a timer for 5 minutes and say, "Go!" As groups are talking, roam the room and make sure the ideas stay high-level and concise. Don't let them get in the weeds. After the exercise is over, say:

OKAY, FOR THE NEXT FIVE MINUTES, EACH GROUP WILL TAKE TURNS TO TELL US WHAT THEY CAME UP WITH AND PLACE THEIR POST-IT NOTES ON THE WALL/EASEL.

Take roughly 5 minutes to share ideas, "cluster" similar ideas or groups together. Keep it moving!

CAN SOMEONE TAKE A PICTURE OF THE SHEET SO WE HAVE IT AS A REFERENCE FOR NEXT WEEK?

Say: We're gonna' take a week to let these ideas marinade. Don't worry, next week we'll walk away with a definitive project, today was about thinking through the possibilities!

Host, you may also save the WHAT Post-It notes for next week's meeting.

CLOSING PRAYER & ANNOUNCEMENTS (1 MIN)

Say: By the way, for our project, we'll all wear Prosper the City t-shirts. These are the same shirts as last year so, if you already have one, you can just wear that. But, if you don't have one, fill out this t-shirt size sheet. I will pick up your t-shirts from the church and bring them next week.

Pass the t-shirt size sheet around the room.

AS WE CLOSE OUT TODAY, DO YOU HAVE ANY PRAYER REQUESTS?

Host, after taking prayer requests, close the meeting with prayer.