

# Growing My Networks

## Defining Network Maps

### Seeing the Harvest

Jesus longs for revival and is looking for people to send out into his harvest fields. Through network mapping, you can be a part of mobilizing workers into God's harvest!

### What Is a Network Map?

A network map (like the one below) is an easy way to help you and your community visualize your different spheres of influence and recognize the people you know within each of them. Use it to:

- Recognize students, faculty, or staff to who haven't yet joined your ministry
- Finding more volunteers to serve with you
- Connect with people who may be interested in partnering with your ministry
- Recruit potential ministry leaders to become apprentices
- Identify influencers among university faculty or staff

### Why Network Map?

- It's encouraging – Network maps allow you to see the scale of influence God has given you.
- It's enlightening – They help you to see patterns and trends.
- It helps guide your prayers – It gives you faces and names to pray for.

## How to Network Map

### Your Turn

1. **Identify Your Spheres of Influence** – Draw a circle for "Me" and add 2-3 lines branching out to represent areas where you spend time (e.g., church, work, family, hobbies).
2. **Identify People in Your Spheres of Influence** – For each sphere, list the people you've connected with in that area of life.
3. **Identify Others' Spheres of Influence** – Consider each person's network and how they might connect you with new people for your ministry.
4. **Repeat** – Move to the next sphere and repeat the process until you've filled out your entire network map.
5. **Double-Check** – Review your map with a close friend or family member to ensure you haven't missed any spheres, including virtual ones.

### Next Steps

Pray over your network map and ask the following questions to help you brainstorm action steps.

- Lord, what do you want me to see here?
- Why have you placed these people in my life?
- Is there a group or place you want to send me to?
- What do you want to see happen among these people?
- What message do I need to share with them?
- How do I need to prepare, learn, grow, and/or repent?
- Who could help advocate for the ministry in their own networks?

## Taking Network Mapping for a Test Drive

## Mapping Your Ministry's Network

Network maps reveal connections that can amplify your ministry. It's not just about your network—students and faculty also have connections, including those who don't know Jesus. Watch Socorro's video on mapping others' networks, then gather your group to map theirs. Encourage them to imagine how God can use these networks to impact others and remind them of the eternal influence they can have.

## Analyzing Your Ministry's Network

Pray through the questions from "Next Steps" as a group then use this plan to do communal discernment over your network maps:

1. Have your group spend some time listening and journaling by themselves.
2. Come together and talk through common themes.
3. In light of your discussion, start talking through the following questions:
  - a. Of the people we know, who is Christian and could partner with us?
  - b. Who's open to Jesus? How can we help them take a next step?
  - c. Who have we invited to something? Who haven't we invited?
  - d. Looking at the bigger picture of these combined networks, where's the most potential?
  - e. Who can help us connect to more networks?

## Related Resources

- [The Call to Mission](#)
- [Inviting God into Shared Networks](#)
- [Network Mapping for Online or In-Person Settings](#)
- [Partnership Gathering Worksheet](#)

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