

## 4 for 2024

*Background for the week of January 28<sup>th</sup>.*

To prepare for your group discussion each week, group members should use the **Community Group Discussion Guide** to complete the **GOD'S WORDS** and **MY WORDS** columns using the scripture below.

### **Series Overview**

In Romans 12 we find the apostle Paul begin a transition from reminding this upstart church about the doctrine of Christ and the faith, to challenging them about the implications of what this looks like in practice. In 4 for 2024 we're walking through Romans 12 together and looking at 4 everyday decisions that could change the whole trajectory of your year.

*Insights and questions to engage with the text:*

1. Whereas most weeks, we look at the passage, this week use the below image and questions for discussion with your group.
2. As you think of the acronym B.L.E.S.S., which of the practices do you find more natural? Which is the most difficult?
3. Who are some people that you are actively seeking to B.L.E.S.S currently? Take some time to pray for them in the group.
4. What are some ways that your group could conveniently seek to B.L.E.S.S others together rather than just individually? Are there any steps you need to take as a group to live this out together?



**Imagine if every person in Fort Worth lived within walking distance of someone who loves Jesus and loves their neighbors.**

**HOW TO GET STARTED:**

1. Write the names of the eight neighbors who live closest to you.
2. Add relevant information about the family. Include information about their occupations, hometowns, hobbies, etc.
3. Post this somewhere visible - on a mirror, window, or refrigerator for a daily reminder to engage with your neighbors.
4. Use the B.L.E.S.S. practices and explore how you and your family can make a difference in the lives of those living right next door.

**B.L.E.S.S.**

- **Begin with prayer.** Pray for any needs and opportunities to get to know your neighbors better.
- **Listen to your neighbors.** Ask good questions and listen to the stories and needs around you.
- **Eat a meal together.** Everyone eats, so look for simple ways to share a meal together.
- **Serve them during times of need.** This could be a note of encouragement or a practical act of service.
- **Share the message of Jesus.** Invite them to trust in Christ for eternal life and for their daily life.

**Ministry can begin at your front door. God has you where you are for a reason. Your proximity and intentionality are all that is needed to begin answering God's call to love your neighbors as yourself.**