

## PROSPER THE CITY

### WEEK 1 – WHO

#### ABOUT WEEK 1

In Week 1 of *Prosper the City*, you'll start by discovering WHO you are as a team. 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.

#### ITEMS NEEDED

- Easel Pad or White Board
- Colored Post-It Notes- at least three distinct colors
- Markers (be sure to use the proper kind for the surface you're writing on!)
- Pens/Markers for the group to use

#### CHECKLIST BEFORE YOUR TEAM ARRIVES

- Pray for the meeting
- Print this discussion guide
- Have refreshments ready and the environment set
- Put on some music to create energy for the first arrivers

#### OPENING (1 MIN)

Say: **Hello! Look around you! This is our Prosper the City team! We'll meet for the next 3 weeks to make a plan, then on week 4, we'll make a DIFFERENCE! On week 5, we'll gather to celebrate and learn from our experience and think about any long-term impact. I'm (your name), our group's leader, and I'm so glad you're here!**

#### ICEBREAKER (10 MIN) - Build a Story Together

Say: **First, let's go around the group and introduce ourselves along with a "little known fact" about ourselves.**

*After activity is finished, then say:*

**Thank you for sharing. This is a great group! Now to get us started, let's talk about stories. Who doesn't love a great story? Building a storyline is one of the oldest and most fun ways to have a good laugh! Not only that, but we'll get to practice bringing together each of our contributions to create something. Even if that thing is a little crazy.**

**So, I will start the story with an opening sentence, but before I finish that sentence, I'll intentionally leave it hanging, unfinished. At that time, I'll hand it off to the person to my left and they'll finish my**

**incomplete sentence and then start a new sentence that they'll also leave incomplete for the person on *their* left to complete.... and so on. Let's try to make it a couple rounds and see where this story goes!**

(ex. of an opening sentence) Once upon a time, in an enchanted forest, there lived a very powerful....  
(leave for the next person to complete. Then she/he adds their next sentence, which they'll also leave hanging.

### **SCRIPTURE & QUESTIONS (10 MIN)**

Say: **Let's see what wisdom the Bible can give us as we start off this week.**

Have someone read the verses below, after each pause to reflect using the following three questions:

- 1) What does this tell us about PEOPLE (ourselves or others)?
- 2) What does this tell us about GOD?
- 3) How does this guide us as we think about OUR PROJECT?

Apply those questions to these verses:

- Luke 21:1-4
- Mark 6:30-44
- Romans 12:3-8

### **ASSET MAPPING: CONNECTIONS (5-7 MIN)**

Say: **With the lessons from today's readings in mind, let's get to planning! To start, we're going to see WHO we are as a team and WHAT we have to offer by doing a simple "Asset Mapping" exercise. 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: CONNECTIONS, ABILITIES, and PASSIONS. We'll start with CONNECTIONS.**

*Give each person a marker/pen and a small stack of 3 different color post-it notes. Approximately 5 of each color.*

Say: **We're starting with CONNECTIONS. So, on THIS COLOR [NAME A COLOR] write as many groups, networks, organizations, neighborhoods, or influential people you're connected to. One on each post-it. I'll give you 60 SECONDS. Ready? GO!**

While they're writing, write the category title "CONNECTIONS" on the white board or easel pad. You'll stick the POST-ITS around it.

Say: **One by one we'll go around and share what we put. You can stand up by the whiteboard/easel and tell us what you wrote and stick them up there as you do, like a word cloud.**

### **ASSET MAPPING: ABILITIES (5-7 MIN)**

Repeat the same exercise for "ABILITIES" using a different color of POST-ITS

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*Captains, don't forget to take pictures of your team at this point and upload them to [pathfinderstl.org/prosper/upload](http://pathfinderstl.org/prosper/upload)*

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#### ASSET MAPPING: PASSIONS (5-7 MIN)

Repeat the same exercise for "PASSIONS", using your final color of POST-ITS

#### CONSOLIDATING ASSETS (3 MIN)

Say: **Notice how we're now operating from a place of abundance and opportunity, not from a place of scarcity. Can we see any kind of pattern between our CONNECTIONS/ABILITIES/PASSIONS?**

*Feel free to rearrange and cluster POST-ITS together as you talk.*

#### BRAINSTORMING WHAT? (10 MIN)

Say: **Since we now know more about WHO we are, to close we're going to look at WHAT needs we see.**

- **Partner up with someone.**
- **One of you volunteer to write for your pair.**
- **I'll set a timer for 5 minutes for you to brainstorm WHAT needs you see in the community.**
  - **START CLOSE TO HOME FIRST!**
  - **Resist getting too specific, "My neighbor needs someone to help rake his leaves because he's injured." Instead turn that into, "Yard work" on one post-it note and "Serving the injured" on another.**
- **Any questions? If not, GO!**

*After 5 minutes, have each pair report out what they came up with and place their post its on another part of the whiteboard/easel or wall.*

#### FINAL PHOTO (1 MIN)

Have someone in the group take a photo of all the POST-ITS so you can reference them again next week.

#### WRAP UP (3 MIN)

Say: **We're going to let these ideas marinate for a week. Don't worry, we'll settle on a project NEXT WEEK, but we want to live in the possibilities for another week. It might change the way you move through life this week! And we'll remember all these ideas because we took pictures!**

(Be sure to save the "WHAT" Post-it notes for next meeting.)

**Any questions?** If not, close in prayer.