

# Oikos Mapping Tool

Oikos is the Greek word for "household." Many times in the New Testament when people come to faith, they immediately gather their "oikos" and tell them about the decision they made. Sometimes it was the community they lived around, like the Samaritan woman in John 4. Sometimes it was their family and close friends, like Lydia and the Philippian jailor in Acts 16. At other times, it was not just their friends and family but those they worked with, like Cornelius in Acts 12. Who is in your oikos? It is likely God has put you in that place so that you can share the gospel with them and that they in turn could share the gospel as well.

Read Acts 17:26-27. According to this passage, what has God determined for us?

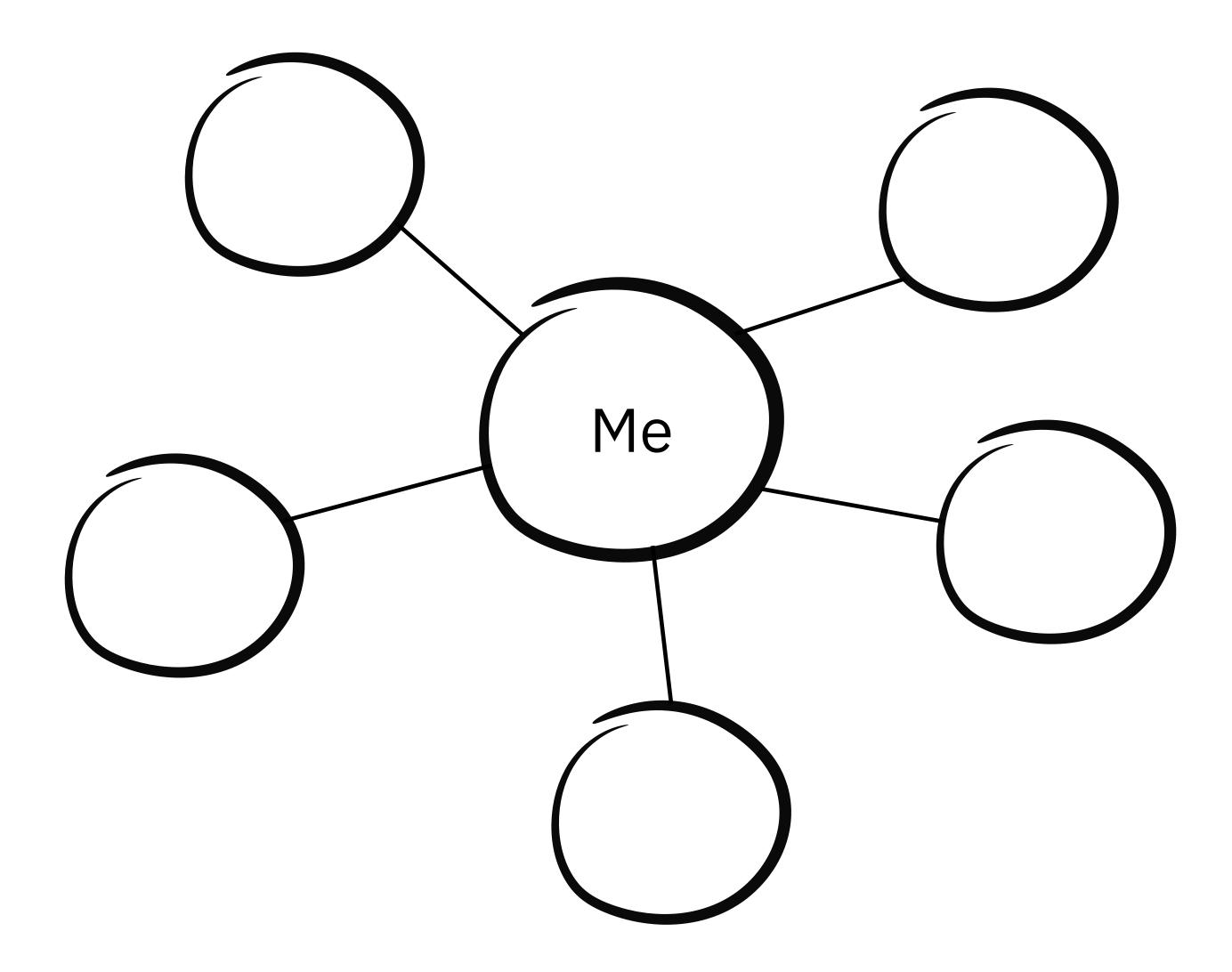
Why did he determine when and where we would be alive on this earth?

The following tool will help you identify the people that God has placed around you so they would search for God and find him.

#### **Build Your Oikos Map**

To begin building your oikos map:

- 1. Put your name in the middle of the page and draw a circle around it.
- 2. Think through the different "oikos" in your life: your job, your classes, your dorm/apartment building/neighborhood, your organization(s) on campus, your friends, and your family.
- 3. Are there any people in those places that are far from God? Write their names around your name and connect them to you. See the example on the following page.



## Looking at your oikos map:

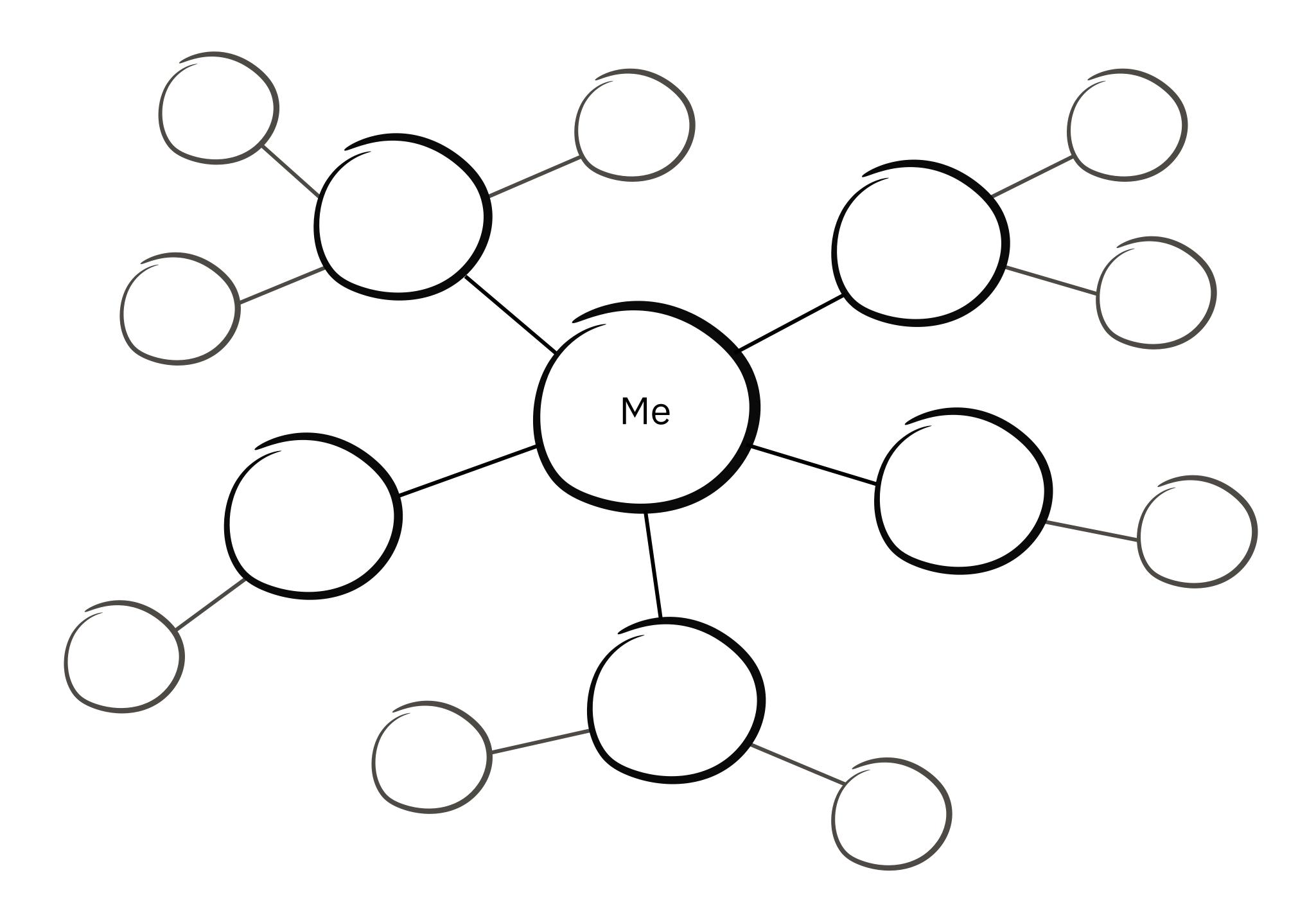
- How has God given you favor with the people on your map?
- How can you use your common space to pray for them, care for them, and share the gospel with them?

Your oikos map doesn't just end with you sharing the gospel with them. Read John 17:18-20.

- Who is Jesus praying for in this passage?
- We want to pray like Jesus; so who are the people that your friends and family have in their "oikos" that you know of right now who could potentially be impacted when your friend/family comes to Christ?

### Extend your oikos map:

- Look at each of the people you have listed on your oikos map. Do they have close friends they spend time with, other family members, or close friends they would consider their "household?"
- Take a moment and write those names extending out from your oikos map on the next page. It's okay if you can't remember their name; just write something to help you remember who they are as you pray for them. See the oikos map on page 2.



## **Application**

This is your oikos map. You know who God has already put in your life in order that they would hear the gospel.

How will you pray for them and how often?

Who on the list will you see this week who you could share your testimony with or a simple gospel presentation?

Who on this list do you need to spend time with in order to develop a better relationship and know how to serve them better?

#### **Suggested Memory Verse**

Acts 17:26-27