



MAGNETIC PARADIGMS

A paradigm forms when two or more individuals share everyday experiences, histories, traits, or influences, contributing to creating a group identity. This shared identity is at the heart of shared connection through common visions, values, vocabulary, and vulnerabilities (See sV4 tool). When one person says to another, 'Me too,' a connection that is more than superficial or social is formed. A bond is easily established, and a paradigm is reinforced and expanded.

Five magnetic paradigms draw individuals toward each other, creating these connections. The greater the attraction to a paradigm, the stronger it becomes, fostering more profound relationships.

These magnetic paradigms are **PASSION**, **PLACE**, **PROFESSION**, **PLAY**, and **PAIN**.

- **PASSION** is when people come together with a mutual zeal for something that fires them up because of a shared fascination or focus. Examples include the love for sports, music, video games, books, food, travel, museums, and countless others.

The power of PASSION is *shared energy*.

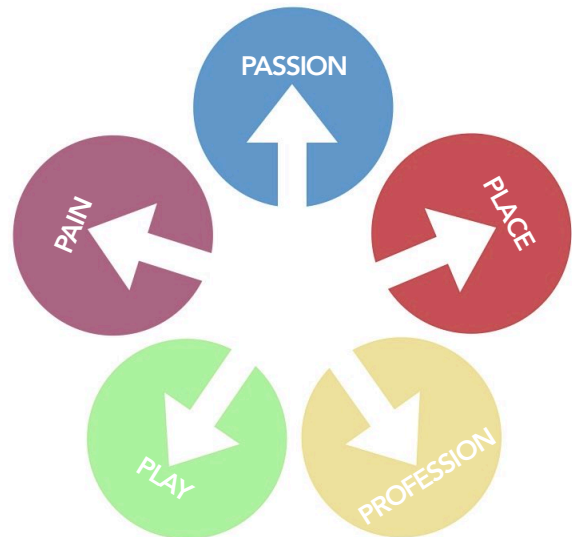
- **PLACE** results from individuals bonding due to their shared location (past or present). For example, those who grew up in New York City share something powerful in common that someone from Columbus, Ohio, will probably not understand. The same can be said for those from New York City, who will not share the same connection as those from Columbus, Ohio.

The power of PLACE is *shared experience*.

- **PROFESSION** is the connection due to a particular occupation or field of expertise. Those who work in a hospital (Doctors, nurses, technicians, specialists, administrators) are drawn together in much the same way musicians are drawn to other musicians. Even though those professions are entirely different, the magnetic pull is the same.

The power of PROFESSION is *shared expertise*.

- **PLAY** occurs when individuals work out at the gym, participate on a softball team, or regularly visit a dance club together. It is whatever tends to bring a sense of happiness and relaxation.



The power of PLAY is *shared enjoyment*.

- **PAIN** is perhaps the most potent connection magnet. People who have gone through a specific trauma, tragedy, or illness form deep connections. For example, those who have undergone chemotherapy share a palpable bond. Individuals who have lost children share a pain that only those who have experienced it firsthand will understand. Only those who have survived abusive relationships know what it means to feel utterly helpless in these situations.

The power of pain is *shared exhaustion or excruciation*.

Please keep the following in mind:

Look for people who share your energy, experience, expertise, enjoyment, and/or exhaustion. These commonalities can lead to great opportunities, and building friendships based on these shared connections should feel natural.

Ask Jesus to guide you in your interactions with others. Some connections will be fruitful, while others may not. Having Jesus' wisdom is essential when engaging with others.

Always strive to see, hear, and feel as Jesus does. He will provide insight into what He perceives. Ask Him for the courage to interact with people as He intends.

Through these connections, Jesus will reveal the Kingdom Expression that He has called you to embody.