

*Creating Third Spaces
as Evangelistic Sites*

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Third Place

(Ray) Oldenburg calls one's "first place" the home and those that one lives with. The "second place" is the workplace — where people may actually spend most of their time. Third places, then, are "anchors" of community life and facilitate and foster broader, more creative interaction.

Third Space

For me the importance of hybridity is not to be able to trace two original moments from which the third emerges, rather hybridity to me is the 'Third Space', which enables other positions to emerge.

~Homi Bhabha *The Location of Culture* (1994)

Third Place

- Neutrality
- Leveling Ground
- Conversational
- Accommodating
- 'Regulars'
- Low Profile
- Playful
- Home

Homogenous
White
Safe
Commodified
Curated

Third Space

- Invested
- Diversity
- Creative/Generative
- Hybridity
- Mix of Regular/New
- Intentional
- Meaningful
- Studio

Diverse
POC
Brave
Open Sourced
Collaborative

We can identify the basic qualities of partnership. They would seem to include 1) commitment that involves responsibility, vulnerability, equality and trust among persons or groups who share a variety of gifts or resources; 2) common struggle and work involving risk, continued growth, and hopefulness in moving toward a goal or purpose transcending the group itself; 3) contextuality in interacting with a wider community of persons, social structures, values and beliefs that may provide support, correctives, or feedback. ***There is never a complete equality in a dynamic relationship, but a pattern of equal regard and mutual acceptance among partners is essential.*** When such a relationship is alive and growing we usually find the gifts of synergy, serendipity and sharing. That is, partners produce an overflow of energy that is greater than the sum of the parts, and that displays unexpected or serendipitous gifts and the impulses to share that energy with others.

-Letty Russell, *The Future of Partnership*, p. 18-19