

Fishing for Men #5

Pray: Ask God to help you see the potential in following His strategy for Soul-Winning

Read: Luke 10:1-12; Read "Bringing In the Harvest- A Biblical Strategy" (Resources)

As Jesus headed toward Jerusalem, He knew there still were many towns remaining that had not heard the gospel message. So He sent out an additional 70 disciples with a strategy to spread the word, making the total 82 preachers and healers.

Very few churches, evangelists or church-planters have an evangelism strategy. Many well-meaning Christians believe if they faithfully and consistently preach the Gospel every day they will get results– but without a strategy the results will be minimal at best. Below is a tried and true evangelism studied and practised will win souls and plant churches in any environment.

1. How did Jesus divide up the newly appointed seventy disciples? (v.1)

As Jesus did earlier with the twelve apostles (Mark 6:7), Jesus sent the seventy out in pairs, a pattern later followed by Paul and Barnabas, Paul and Silas, Barnabas and Mark, and other early missionaries. It's not that missionaries should never go alone, but traveling in pairs is safer, provides more encouragement, and uses the spiritual gifts of the pair rather than just a single missionary.

3. What did Jesus ask His followers to pray for (v.2)?

There are really only a few verses that show us how to pray for the lost, Luke 10:2 is probably the best known. Here Jesus didn't instruct us to pray for the harvest; our prayer is for the Lord to send out workers.

4. How is the Christian disciple like a "lamb among wolves (v.3)?"

5. What was the purpose of travelling light (v.4)?

6. What kind of guests are they to be (v.7)? Why?

The house where they were first welcomed was to remain the disciples' base of operations in that town until they left. They were not to move around from house to house, seeking to improve their lodging or meals.

A "son of peace" (v.) can be either a male or female. Some examples of a "son of peace" are the Samaritan Woman (John 4:1-42), Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-9) and Levi (Matthew 2:13-17). A son of peace may or may not already be Christian- Remember the seventy disciples were sent to Jews not Christians. And the events of John 4 took place in Sychar a Samaritan town... But a person of peace (spoken or unspoken) is willing to let you use their "house of peace" as a base for outreach.

7. Why do think it was necessary for Jesus to give the instructions of verses 7 and 8?

Jesus was cautioning them not to be too picky about the ceremonial cleanness of the food they were offered. Some Jewish homes would have been very strict in their dietary observance, while others were less so. "Do not go from house to house" (v.7) is an encouragement to build relationship, not a prohibition against door to door evangelism. If you can it is a good idea to do "house to house" evangelism, but only to find the son/s of peace in that community

8. How are they to relate to town which they visit (v.8-12)

Pray together; ask God to help use this, His strategy for maximum impact in your community.

