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New Life Through the Family of Christ

by
Duane L. Anderson



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New Life Through the Family of Christ

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New Life Through the Family of Christ

Introduction

This is the third in a series of three manuals. The first manual, *New Life in Christ*, discusses how we build our relationship with God. The second manual, *New Life in the Family of Christ*, discusses how we build our relationship with other Christians. This manual, *New Life Through the Family of Christ*, discusses how we build our relationship with those who are not yet Christians for the purpose of sharing the Gospel with them and leading them to New Life in Christ. Through this manual, we will be looking at the following topics:

- I. Building our relationships in our Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and to the end of earth - Acts 1:8**
 - A. Our Jerusalem - our family, friends, neighbors, co-workers and others that we know
 - B. Our Judea - people of our culture that we do not know
 - C. Our Samaria - people of other cultures in our general area
 - D. Our uttermost part of the world - people in other parts of the world

- II. Building our relationships through our spiritual gifts - Romans 12:3-8 (every Christian has one or more of these spiritual gifts)**
 - A. The gift of prophecy
 - B. The gift of ministry (serving)
 - C. The gift of teaching (doctrine)
 - D. The gift of exhorting (encouraging)
 - E. The gift of giving
 - F. The gift of ruling (leading)
 - G. The gift of showing mercy

- III. Building our relationships where people feel comfortable**

- IV. Building our relationships is best learned by example**

I. Building our relationships in our Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and to the end of the earth

Acts 1:8

“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

Understanding our: Meaning of each of these areas for us today

Jerusalem	Jerusalem was the city where Christ spoke these words. Our Jerusalem is our family, friends, neighbors, co-workers and others that we know or have met.
Judea	Judea was the area surrounding Jerusalem and could be compared to our county or metropolitan area. Our Judea is the people of our culture in our county or metropolitan area that we do not know.
Samaria	Samaria was a nearby area and the people were from a different ethnic group, a different culture and had a different religion. Our Samaria is the people in our surrounding area who are of a different ethnic group, culture or religion.
end of the earth	The end of the earth involves all people who are not in one of the groups previously mentioned.

Barriers that we cross to reach out to the people of each of these areas

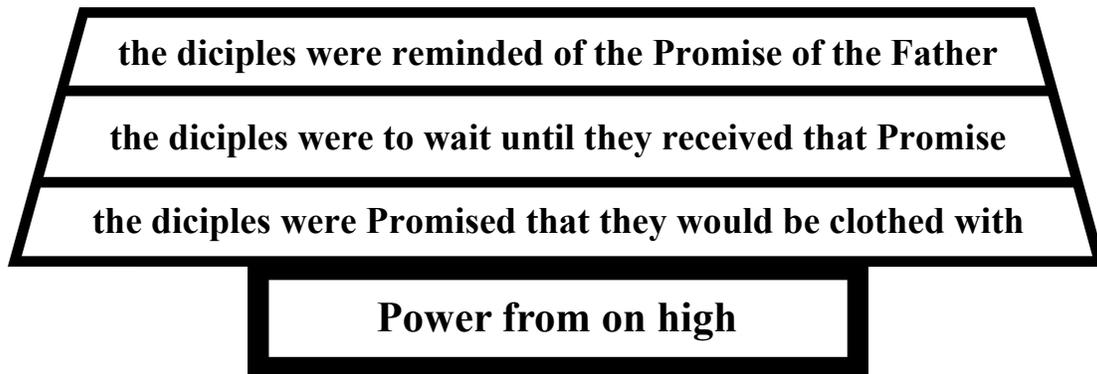
Jerusalem	the barrier of our own fear
Judea	the barrier of getting acquainted with strangers
Samaria	the barrier of understanding a different ethnic group, culture or religion
end of the earth	the barrier of learning another language or going to another part of the world

Learning to cross the barrier of our own fear

Recognize that we have no power to witness of our own

Luke 24:46-49

“Then He said to them, ‘Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And you are witnesses of these things. Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high.’”



Understand that the source of our power is the Holy Spirit

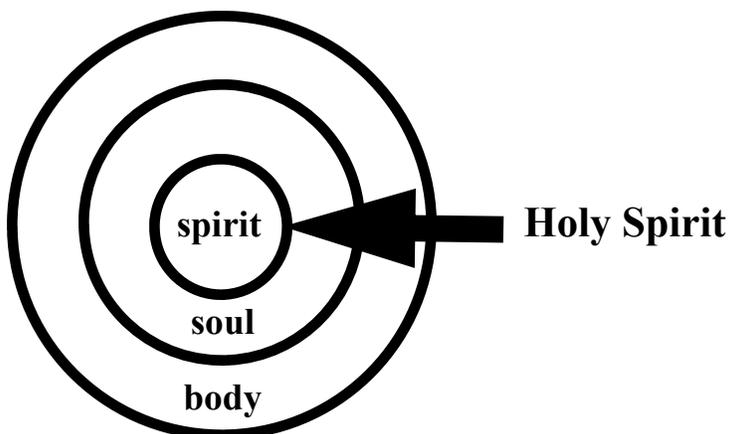
Acts 1:8

“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

We receive the Holy Spirit as a gift at the moment that we repent

Acts 2:38

“Then Peter said to them, ‘Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.’”



Romans 8:14-16

“For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, ‘Abba, Father.’ The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God.”

We will accomplish nothing if we try to witness in our own strength

John 15:5

“I am the vine, you *are* the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.”

because we are quenching the Holy Spirit

1 Thessalonians 5:19

“Do not quench the Spirit.”

We can quench the Holy Spirit

1 Thessalonians 5:19



We can grieve the Holy Spirit

Ephesians 4:30-32

We will witness with boldness if we witness in the power of the Holy Spirit

2 Timothy 1:7

“For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.”

When we are filled with the Holy Spirit

Ephesians 5:18



We will speak the Word of God with boldness

Acts 4:31

Learning to cross the barrier of getting acquainted with strangers

We must be motivated to get acquainted with strangers by the love of Christ

2 Corinthians 5:14-15

“For the love of Christ compels us, because we judge thus: that if One died for all, then all died; and He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again.”



We will get acquainted with strangers as we are moved with compassion

Matthew 9:36-38

“But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd. Then He said to His disciples, ‘The harvest truly *is* plentiful, but the laborers *are* few. Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.’”

Do we see people as Christ saw people?

We will get acquainted with strangers as we let the Holy Spirit lead us

Acts 8:4

“Therefore those who were scattered went everywhere preaching the word.”

Acts 11:19

“Now those who were scattered after the persecution that arose over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch, preaching the word to no one but the Jews only.”

Acts 16:6-9

“Now when they had gone through Phrygia and the region of Galatia, they were forbidden by the Holy Spirit to preach the word in Asia. After they had come to Mysia, they tried to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit did not permit them. So passing by Mysia, they came down to Troas. And a vision appeared to Paul in the night. A man of Macedonia stood and pleaded with him, saying, ‘Come over to Macedonia and help us.’”



Learning to cross the barrier of understanding a different ethnic group, culture or religion

We must first lift up our eyes and see these other groups

John 4:35

“Do you not say, “There are still four months and *then* comes the harvest”? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest!”

the sin of prejudice kept the disciples from even seeing the spiritual needs of the Samaritans



prejudice and lack of love will keep us from seeing the spiritual needs of other cultures around us

We must take the initiative to make the first contact

John 4:5-7

“So He came to a city of Samaria which is called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Now Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied from *His* journey, sat thus by the well. It was about the sixth hour. A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, “Give Me a drink.””

We go where we can meet people who need Christ



We choose to make contacts with those people

We must accept their hostility without feeling personally rejected

John 4:9

“Then the woman of Samaria said to Him, ‘How is it that You, being a Jew, ask a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?’ For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.”

many people feel that they have been rejected because of their ethnic group

many people feel that they have been rejected because of their culture

many people feel that they have been rejected because of their religion

many people feel they have been rejected because of their lifestyle

as a result, we must be prepared to accept their hostility and show love as Christ showed love

We must always be prepared to share the gift of God

John 4:10-14

“Jesus answered and said to her, ‘If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, “Give Me a drink,” you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water.’ The woman said to Him, ‘Sir, You have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep. Where then do You get that living water? Are You greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, as well as his sons and his livestock?’ Jesus answered and said to her, ‘Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life.”

develop curiosity

be prepared to answer questions

compare physical and spiritual life

offer eternal life

We must be prepared for defensiveness about sin

John 4:15-18

“The woman said to Him, ‘Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw.’ Jesus said to her, ‘Go, call your husband, and come here.’ The woman answered and said, ‘I have no husband.’ Jesus said to her, ‘You have well said, “I have no husband,” for you have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have is not your husband; in that you spoke truly.”

focus on reaching the family, especially the husband, in evangelism

be prepared to accept the fact that the person may have a sinful past

compliment the person for telling the truth

We must distinguish between where we worship and who we worship

John 4:19-24

“The woman said to Him, ‘Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, and you *Jews* say that in Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.’ Jesus said to her, ‘Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews. But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God *is* Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”

Many people will question what religion is right

We must carefully show that:

true worship is not based on a place

true worship is not based on any religion

**true worship is based on worshiping the Father
(who is the Creator of all things)**

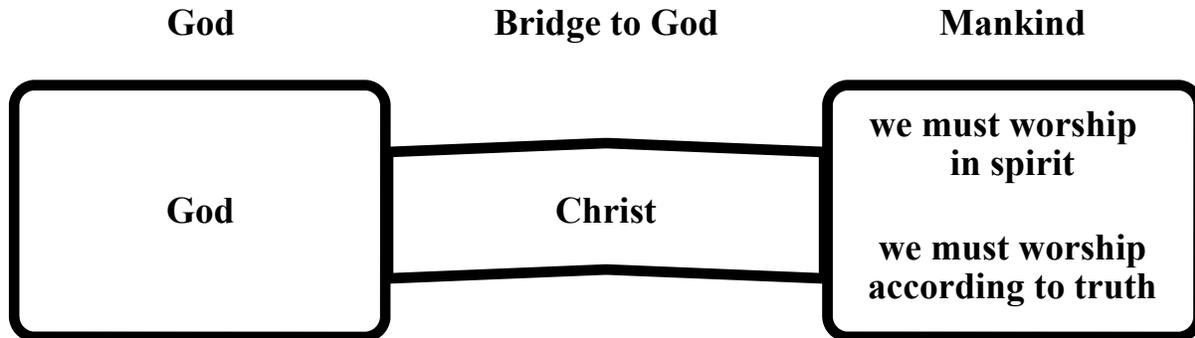
true worship must come from our spirit

true worship must be according to truth

We must remember that our purpose is to introduce people to Christ

John 4:24-26

“God *is* Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.’ The woman said to Him, ‘I know that Messiah is coming’ (who is called Christ). ‘When He comes, He will tell us all things.’ Jesus said to her, ‘I who speak to you am *He*.’”



We must allow time for the person of another culture time to discuss Christ with their family, friends and community

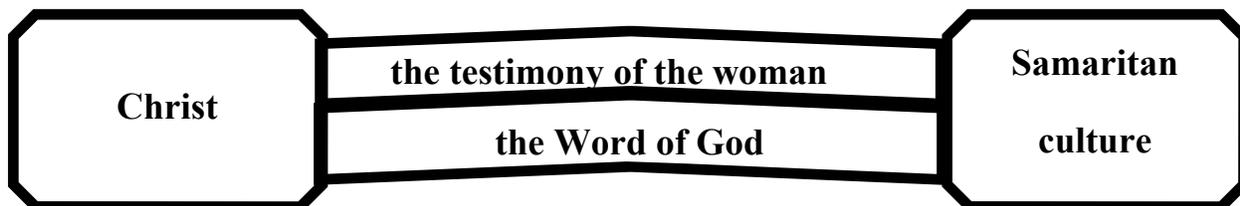
John 4:28-30

“The woman then left her waterpot, went her way into the city, and said to the men, ‘Come, see a Man who told me all things that I ever did. Could this be the Christ?’ Then they went out of the city and came to Him.”

John 4:39-42

“And many of the Samaritans of that city believed in Him because of the word of the woman who testified, ‘He told me all that I *ever* did.’ So when the Samaritans had come to Him, they urged Him to stay with them; and He stayed there two days. And many more believed because of His own word. Then they said to the woman, ‘Now we believe, not because of what you said, for we ourselves have heard *Him* and we know that this is indeed the Christ, the Savior of the world.’”

The bridges to bring Christ to another culture



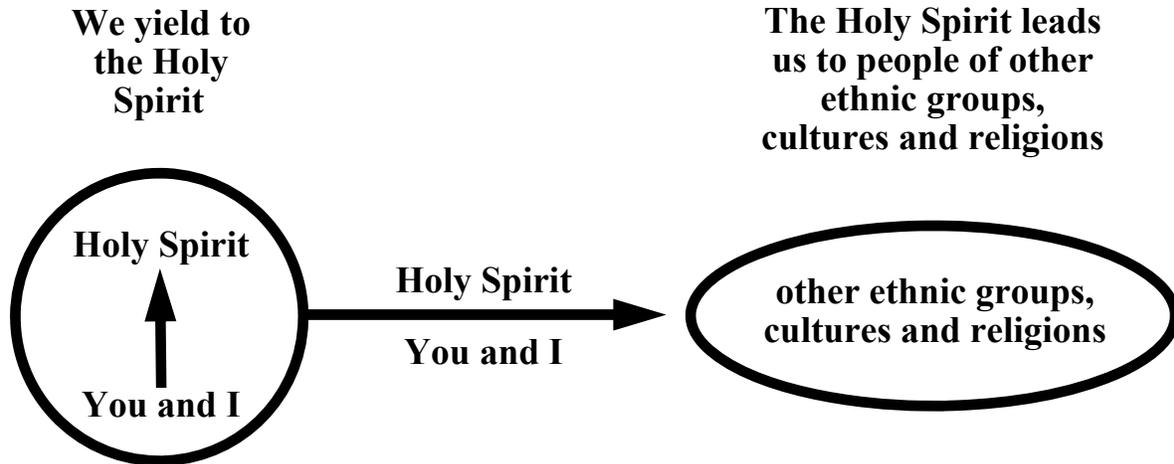
We must depend on the leading of the Holy Spirit to minister effectively to a different ethnic group, culture or religion

**Philip was led by the Spirit as he went to the Samaritans and to the Ethiopian
Acts 8:4-5**

“Therefore those who were scattered went everywhere preaching the word. Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria and preached Christ to them.”

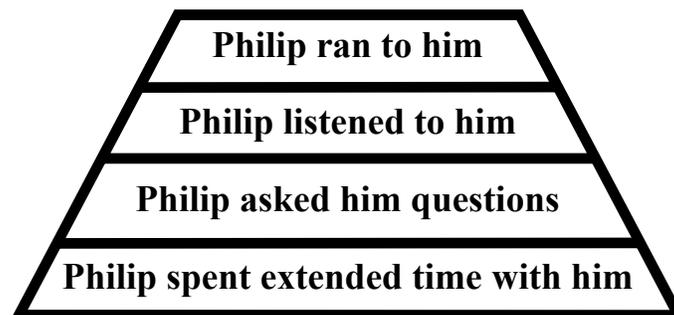
Acts 8:29

“Then the Spirit said to Philip, ‘Go near and overtake this chariot.’”



**We let the Holy Spirit guide our contacts and lead in building bridges
Acts 8:30-34**

“So Philip ran to him, and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah, and said, ‘Do you understand what you are reading?’ And he said, ‘How can I, unless someone guides me?’ And he asked Philip to come up and sit with him. The place in the Scripture which he read was this: ‘He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; And as a lamb before its shearer *is* silent, So He opened not His mouth. In His humiliation His justice was taken away, And who will declare His generation? For His life is taken from the earth.’ So the eunuch answered Philip and said, ‘I ask you, of whom does the prophet say this, of himself or of some other man?’”



The barrier of learning another language or going to another part of the world

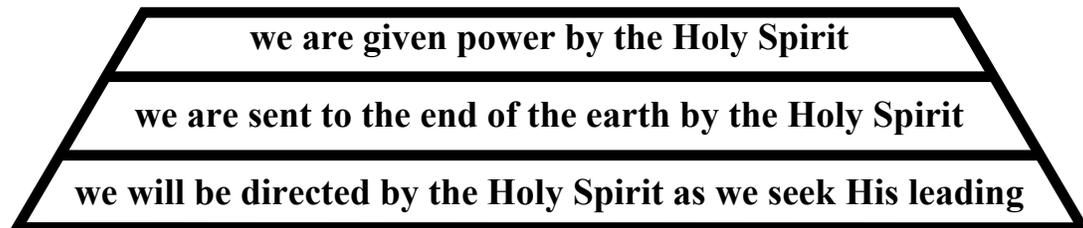
We must remember that we are sent and given power by the Holy Spirit

Acts 1:8

“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

Acts 13:2-3

“As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, ‘Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.’ Then, having fasted and prayed, and laid hands on them, they sent *them* away.”



We may meet three different groups of people in another part of the world

Acts 17:16-17

“Now while Paul waited for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him when he saw that the city was given over to idols. Therefore he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and with the *Gentile* worshipers, and in the marketplace daily with those who happened to be there.”

the three groups	their beliefs	where we meet them
Jews	believe in the Old Testament	in the synagogue
Gentile worshipers	believe in the true God	in a place of worship
everyone else who happens to be there	believe in their own gods and philosophies	in the marketplace, their homes or any other place

We need to understand the backgrounds of the people in the marketplace

Acts 17:18

“Then certain Epicurean and Stoic philosophers encountered him. And some said, ‘What does this babbling man want to say?’ Others said, ‘He seems to be a proclaimer of foreign gods,’ because he preached to them Jesus and the resurrection.”

the various people

the various ideas of these people

the Epicureans	this group had given up on finding truth and were just living for pleasure
the Stoics	this group said that they could be self-sufficient and lived a very disciplined life
those who called Paul a babbling man	the group that called Paul a babbling man were those who mocked and made fun
those who called Paul a proclaimer of foreign gods	this group was those who had a fear of evil spirits or were involved in various forms of idol worship (the word “foreign gods” is “demons” in all other uses)

How Paul reached out to people from these backgrounds

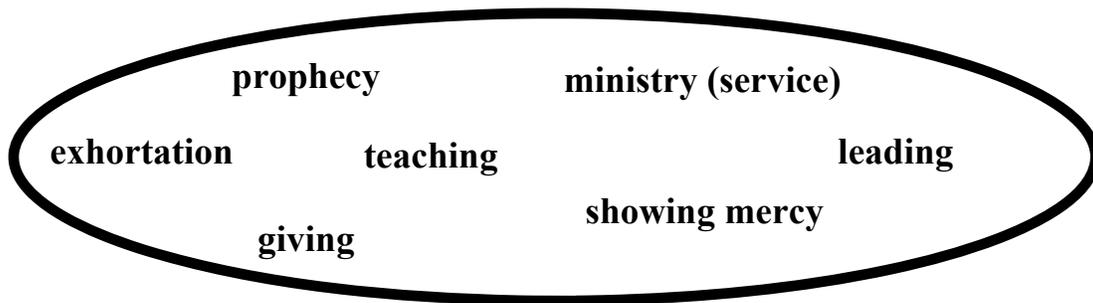
he met them where they lived, worked and spent their free time Acts 17:17-22
he made it a point to find out what they believed Acts 17:17-18, 22-23
he began with the Creator and creation Acts 17:24 -26
he showed how men turned from the Creator to other gods Acts 17:27-29
he focused on repentance and the resurrection with the result that some believed Acts 17:30-34

II. Building our relationships for evangelism through our spiritual gifts

Every Christian has one or more of these spiritual gifts but no one has all
Romans 12:3-8

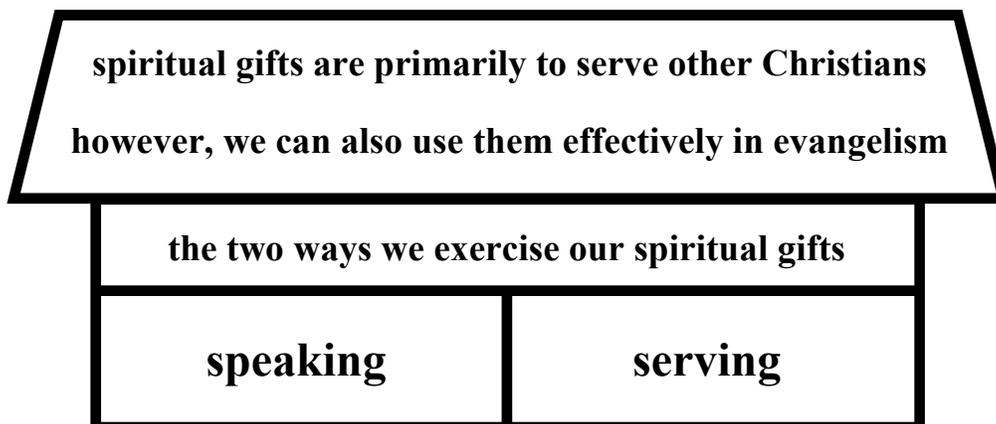
“For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think *of himself* more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith. For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, so we, *being* many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, *let us use them*: if prophecy, *let us prophesy* in proportion to our faith; or ministry, *let us use it in our ministering*; he who teaches, in teaching; he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.”

One body made up of many different members (people)
who have a variety of different spiritual gifts



Two ways we use our spiritual gifts
1 Peter 4:10-11

“As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.”



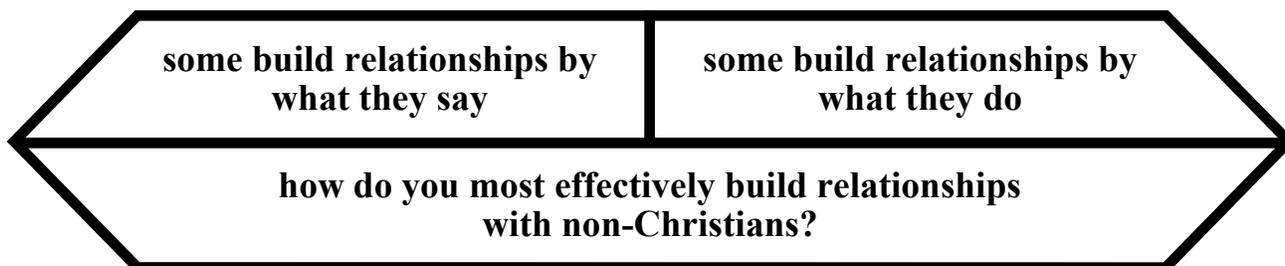
Understanding how each spiritual gift can be used for evangelism

The most effective use of our spiritual gifts for evangelism will involve working as a team so that we develop relationships and share in a variety of ways

1 Corinthians 3:5-8

“Who then is Paul, and who *is* Apollos, but ministers through whom you believed, as the Lord gave to each one? I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase. So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase. Now he who plants and he who waters are one, and each one will receive his own reward according to his own labor.”

We are all to build relationships with those who are not yet Christians



The way we build healthy relationships is often related to our spiritual gifts

1 Corinthians 12:4-7

“There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of *all*.”

God has given us different ways of doing what we do

God	What God gives us
the Holy Spirit	<u>different gifts</u> to serve one another effectively
Christ	<u>different ways</u> to minister and serve one another effectively
God	<u>supernatural energy</u> and power to serve effectively

Understanding how our spiritual gifts affect the way we build relationships

The gift of prophecy

Since the prophets gave us the completed written Word of God, the gift of prophecy does not speak about giving new revelation since that is clearly forbidden in Revelation 22:18-19. Instead, the one with the gift of prophecy is to prophesy what has already been written down in the Word of God. Three key passages help us to understand this gift better:

1 Corinthians 14:3

“But he who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to men.”

1 Peter 1:10

“Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and searched carefully, who prophesied of the grace *that would come* to you.”

Jude 14-15

“Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying, ‘Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints, to execute judgment on all, to convict all who are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have committed in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him.’”

The gift of prophecy: to quote the Word of God to: edify, exhort and comfort; announce the grace that is provided in salvation; warn of judgment for ungodly deeds. The person with this gift will often quote the Scripture without explaining it as Peter did in his sermon in Acts 2. The person with this gift must show great love and compassion when building relationships with a non-Christian.

Build relationships and show love to non-Christians by:

seeking them where they are	Luke 19:1-10
spending time with them	Luke 5:27-32
showing compassion	Matthew 9:36-37
sharing about repentance	Luke 5:31-32
sharing about forgiveness	John 8:1-11
sharing the answer to fear	Jude 20-23; Hebrews 2:14-15

The gift of ministry (serving)

The Christian who has the gift of serving will usually emphasize practical ways to help other Christians. This will involve many different kinds of ministry but the purpose will be to serve other Christians. Three key passages help us to understand this gift better:

Romans 16:1-2

“I commend to you Phoebe our sister, who is a servant of the church in Cenchrea, that you may receive her in the Lord in a manner worthy of the saints, and assist her in whatever business she has need of you; for indeed she has been a helper of many and of myself also.”

1 Corinthians 16:15

“I urge you, brethren—you know the household of Stephanas, that it is the firstfruits of Achaia, and *that* they have devoted themselves to the ministry of the saints.”

2 Corinthians 8:1-4

“Moreover, brethren, we make known to you the grace of God bestowed on the churches of Macedonia: that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded in the riches of their liberality. For I bear witness that according to *their* ability, yes, and beyond *their* ability, *they were* freely willing, imploring us with much urgency that we would receive the gift and the fellowship of the ministering to the saints.”

The gift of serving: to serve the saints by: helping; serving; sharing; devoting our time to the ministry of the saints. The gift will often involve manual projects and short-term goals.

Build relationships and show love to non-Christians by:

helping others	1 Corinthians 16:1-2
providing meals	Acts 6:1-6
meeting needs	Acts 9:36-39
being a helper	Acts 13:5; 2 Timothy 4:11
working as a team to bring people to Christ	Mark 2:4-5
providing hospitality	1 Peter 4:7-9

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The gift of teaching

The Christian who has the gift of teaching will tend to emphasize purity of doctrine and will emphasize the importance of much study in order to make certain that there is purity of doctrine. The concern of one who has this gift is for sound doctrine in all teaching and the application of that teaching so that it produces obedience and godly living. Three key passages help us to understand this gift better:

1 Timothy 4:16

“Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you.”

Titus 2:7-8

“In all things showing yourself *to be* a pattern of good works; in doctrine *showing* integrity, reverence, incorruptibility, sound speech that cannot be condemned, that one who is an opponent may be ashamed, having nothing evil to say of you.”

Titus 1:9

“Holding fast the faithful word as he has been taught, that he may be able, by sound doctrine, both to exhort and convict those who contradict.”

The gift of teaching: to spend much time in study so that there will be purity of doctrine in all teaching. This teaching will include both teaching those who want to learn and refuting those who contradict. With this gift, we must make certain that we do not substitute study for building relationships with people.

Build relationships and show love to non-Christians by:

being an example	1 Timothy 4:12-16
discussing people's question	John 3:1-21
spending time working together	Acts 18:1-3
teaching the truth	Titus 2:7-8
explaining the truth	Acts 18:26; Titus 1:9
reasoning and persuading	Acts 19:8
showing and teaching publicly and house to house	Acts 20:20-21

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The gift of exhorting

The Christian who has the gift of exhorting will tend to emphasize growth toward spiritual maturity so that the Word of God will not be blasphemed. He will urge others to pursue a course of conduct that is always prospective, looking toward the future. Four key passages help us to understand this gift better:

1 Thessalonians 4:9-10

“But concerning brotherly love you have no need that I should write to you, for you yourselves are taught by God to love one another; and indeed you do so toward all the brethren who are in all Macedonia. But we urge you, brethren, that you increase more and more.”

1 Timothy 6:1-2

“Let as many bondservants as are under the yoke count their own masters worthy of all honor, so that the name of God and *His* doctrine may not be blasphemed. And those who have believing masters, let them not despise *them* because they are brethren, but rather serve *them* because those who are benefited are believers and beloved. Teach and exhort these things.”

Titus 2:15

“Speak these things, exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no one despise you.”

Titus 2:4-5

“That they admonish the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, to be discreet, chaste, homemakers, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be blasphemed.”

The gift of exhorting: to encourage the saints to: love; good works; godly living by giving specific steps so that the Word of God will not be blasphemed. The person with this gift will often encourage individuals to take small, specific steps that will help them to work toward spiritual development and goals.

Build relationships and show love to non-Christians by:

showing brotherly love	1 Thessalonians 4:9-10
showing your good works	1 Timothy 6:1-2
speaking and encouraging	Titus 2:15
giving wise counsel	Titus 2:4-5
being a good listener	James 1:19-20

The gift of giving (sharing)

The Christian who has the gift of giving tends to emphasize giving to needs that are often not recognized by others. Often, there will also be an emphasis on giving to missions so that the Word of God can be carried worldwide. Four key passages help us to understand this gift better:

Romans 12:8

“He who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.”

Romans 1:11-12

“For I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift, so that you may be established— that is, that I may be encouraged together with you by the mutual faith both of you and me.”

Ephesians 4:28

“Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with *his* hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need.”

1 Thessalonians 2:8

“So, affectionately longing for you, we were well pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God, but also our own lives, because you had become dear to us.”

The gift of giving: to give generously so that: faith may be strengthened; needs may be met; others may be able to minister because we have given of our own souls. The person with the gift of giving will often encourage other Christians to share in the ministry of giving so that his or her giving is multiplied.

Build relationships and show love to non-Christians by:

sharing generously	Romans 12:8
sharing encouragement	Romans 1:11-12
sharing genuine needs	Ephesians 4:28
sharing your life	1 Thessalonians 2:8
sharing for basic needs	Luke 3:11
sharing reconciliation with God	2 Corinthians 5:18
sharing with the poor	2 Corinthians 9:6-9

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The gift of showing mercy

The Christian who has the gift of showing mercy tends to be more sensitive to the inner feelings of others and demonstrates loving concern to those who are in inner distress. The person with this gift is usually effective at offering comfort to those experiencing inner distress. Three key passages help us to understand this gift better:

Matthew 20:30-34

“And behold, two blind men sitting by the road, when they heard that Jesus was passing by, cried out, saying, ‘Have mercy on us, O Lord, Son of David!’ Then the multitude warned them that they should be quiet; but they cried out all the more, saying, ‘Have mercy on us, O Lord, Son of David!’ So Jesus stood still and called them, and said, ‘What do you want Me to do for you?’ They said to Him, ‘Lord, that our eyes may be opened.’ So Jesus had compassion and touched their eyes. And immediately their eyes received sight, and they followed Him.”

2 Corinthians 1:3-4

“Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.”

Romans 12:8

“He who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.”

The gift of showing mercy: to feel such sympathy with the misery of another that it produces comfort and thankfulness for the opportunity to show mercy.

Build relationships and show love to non-Christians by:

showing compassion	Matthew 20:30-34; Jude 22
giving comfort to the troubled	2 Corinthians 1:3-4
responding quickly to needs	Romans 12:8
showing mercy and offering life	Romans 11:29-32
telling about Christ’s mercy	Mark 5:19
showing mercy to the oppressed	Matthew 15:22, 17:15

The gift of leading

The word translated “lead” means *to stand before or lead*. In order to lead effectively, God has given the person with this gift the ability to see what a church or other ministry needs to do to accomplish the work of God in the future. The Christian who has the gift of leading (ruling) tends to take a long-range view and make long-range plans so that the work of God can be completed smoothly and efficiently. Three key passages help us to understand this gift better:

1 Thessalonians 5:12

“And we urge you, brethren, to recognize those who labor among you, and are over you in the Lord and admonish you.”

Titus 3:8

“This is a faithful saying, and these things I want you to affirm constantly, that those who have believed in God should be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable to men.”

Titus 3:14

“And let our *people* also learn to maintain good works, to *meet* urgent needs, that they may not be unfruitful.”

The gift of leading: to lead under the leadership of the Lord so that the good works of all will be profitable and fruitful. The person with this gift will often be given insight by the Lord to help that person see what a group needs to do to move forward and make progress in their ministry.

Build relationships and show love to non-Christians by:

being quick to make contacts	Romans 12:8
using your leadership to build bridges	1 Thessalonians 5:12
maintaining good works	Titus 3:8
organizing good works	Titus 3:14
leading your own home so that others seek help	1 Timothy 3:4-5, 12
leading others in outreach and evangelism	Acts 10:23-24, 11:12

III. Building our relationships where people feel comfortable

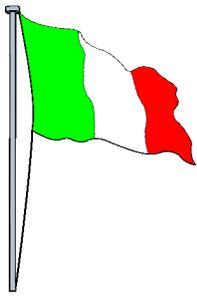
Evangelism is a going ministry

We are to make disciples as we are going

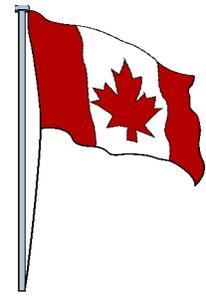
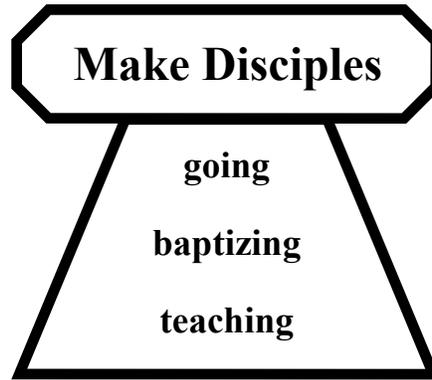
Matthew 28:19-20

“Go(ing), therefore and **make disciples** of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even* to the end of the age.’ Amen.”

One Command, Three Participles



All nations



All nations

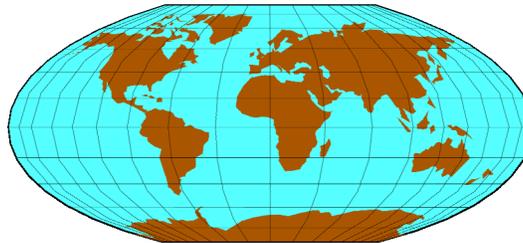
We are to preach the Gospel as we are going

Mark 16:15

“And He said to them, ‘Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.’”

The place where we reach people

Go into all the world



The message that will reach people



People feel comfortable as we build relationships in their homes

Christ visited with people in homes and sat with them

Mark 2:1-2

“And again He entered Capernaum after *some* days, and it was heard that He was in the house. Immediately many gathered together, so that there was no longer room to receive *them*, not even near the door. And He preached the word to them.”

Mark 2:15

“Now it happened, as He was dining in *Levi's* house, that many tax collectors and sinners also sat together with Jesus and His disciples; for there were many, and they followed Him.”

Christ met many people in the house of Peter	Mark 1:29-33
Christ met people at a house in Capernaum	Mark 2:1-2
Christ met people at the house of Levi	Mark 2:15
Christ met people at the house of a Pharisee	Luke 7:36-39
Christ met people at the house of Jairus	Luke 8:49-56

Paul spent time with people in their homes

Acts 18:1-3

“After these things Paul departed from Athens and went to Corinth. And he found a certain Jew named Aquila, born in Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla (because Claudius had commanded all the Jews to depart from Rome); and he came to them. So, because he was of the same trade, he stayed with them and worked; for by occupation they were tentmakers.”

Paul spent time at the house of Lydia	Acts 16:14-15
Paul spent time at the house of the jailer	Acts 16:27-34
Paul lived with Aquila and Priscilla	Acts 18:1-3
Paul taught many people at the house of Justus	Acts 18:7-11
Paul invited people to his own rental house	Acts 28:16-31

People feel comfortable as we build relationships where they work

Christ met many people at their work

Matthew 4:18-19

“And Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. Then He said to them, ‘Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.’”

Matthew 9:9

“As Jesus passed on from there, He saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax office. And He said to him, ‘Follow Me.’ So he arose and followed Him.”

Christ called Peter and Andrew at work	Matthew 4:18-20
Christ called James and John at work	Matthew 4:21-22
Christ called Matthew at work	Matthew 9:9
Christ met the Samaritan woman while she was working	John 4:5-7

Paul met many people at their work

Acts 13:7

“Who was with the proconsul, Sergius Paulus, an intelligent man. This man called for Barnabas and Saul and sought to hear the word of God.”

Acts 16:27-29

“And the keeper of the prison, awaking from sleep and seeing the prison doors open, supposing the prisoners had fled, drew his sword and was about to kill himself. But Paul called with a loud voice, saying, ‘Do yourself no harm, for we are all here.’ Then he called for a light, ran in, and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas.”

Paul met Sergus Paulus at his work	Acts 13:7
Paul met the jailer at his work	Acts 16:27-29
Paul met the chief captain at his work	Acts 21:37-39
Paul visited Felix at his work	Acts 24:24-26
Paul visited many soldiers at their work	Acts 28:16

People feel comfortable as we build relationships with them where they spend their free time

Christ met many people during their free time

John 1:48

“Nathanael said to Him, ‘How do You know me?’ Jesus answered and said to him, ‘Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you.’”

John 3:1-2

“There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, ‘Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him.’”

Christ met people when they were resting	John 1:48
Christ met people in the evening	John 3:1-2
Christ met people on the mountain	John 6:3-5
Christ met people by the sea	Luke 5:1-3
Christ met people along the road	Luke 19:1-5

Paul met many people during their free time

Acts 16:13

“And on the Sabbath day we went out of the city to the riverside, where prayer was customarily made; and we sat down and spoke to the women who met *there*.”

Acts 17:17

“Therefore he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and with the *Gentile* worshipers, and in the marketplace daily with those who happened to be there.”

Paul met people by the riverside	Acts 16:13
Christ met people in the marketplace	Acts 17:17
Christ met people in the streets	Acts 16:16-18
Christ met people on Mar’s Hill	Acts 16:19-23
Christ met people by a campfire	Acts 28:1-6

People feel comfortable as we build relationships in times of stress

Christ shared with people in their times of joy, sorrow and grief

John 2:1-2

“On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Now both Jesus and His disciples were invited to the wedding.”

Luke 7:11-13

“Now it happened, the day after, *that* He went into a city called Nain; and many of His disciples went with Him, and a large crowd. And when He came near the gate of the city, behold, a dead man was being carried out, the only son of his mother; and she was a widow. And a large crowd from the city was with her. When the Lord saw her, He had compassion on her and said to her, ‘Do not weep.’”

Christ met people at weddings	John 2:1-2
Christ met people at funerals	Luke 7:11-16
Christ met people in cemeteries	Mark 5:1-5
Christ met people in times of hopelessness	John 5:5-6
Christ met people in times of shame	John 8:1-11

The apostles shared with people in their times of joy, sorrow and grief

Acts 3:1-2

“Now Peter and John went up together to the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth *hour*. And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms from those who entered the temple.”

Peter met people in times of hopelessness	Acts 3:1-2
Peter met people in times of suffering	Acts 5:12-16
Peter met people in times of spiritual oppression	Acts 16:16-18
Peter met people in times of suffering	Acts 19:11-20
Peter met people in times of fear	John 8:1-11

IV. Building our relationships is best learned by example

Christ gave His disciples four calls and a commission

Four Calls			
Come and See John 1:39	Come and Grow Mark 1:16-20	Come and Serve Mark 3:13-15	Come and Shepherd John 21:15-17

Our Commission
as you are going, Make Disciples Matthew 28:19-20

Building a relationship with Christ

Christ spent the first year of His ministry inviting people to “Come and See”

John 1:39

“He said to them, ‘Come and see.’ They came and saw where He was staying, and remained with Him that day (now it was about the tenth hour).”

Christ invited people to visit Him where He was staying John 1:36-42
Christ invited people to spend time with Him John 1:43-51
Christ invited people to attend social events with Him John 2:1-11
Christ invited people to ask their questions John 3:1-21
Christ invited people to travel with Him John 4:1-4
Christ provided opportunities for those traveling with Him to see His concern for others John 4:5-42

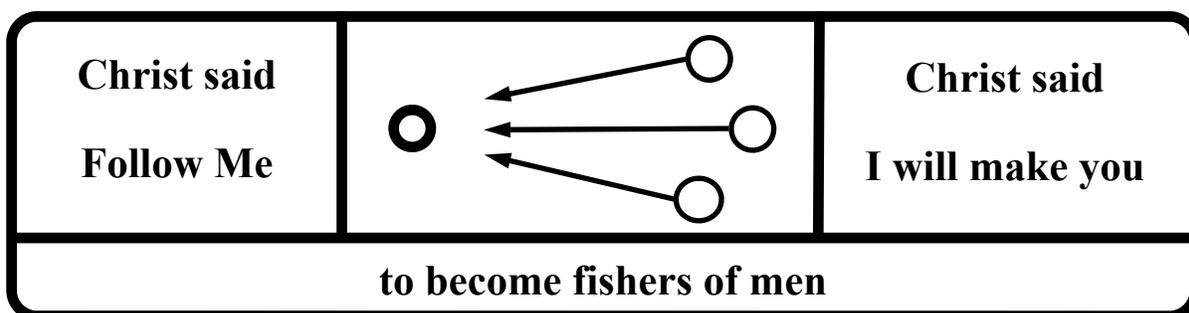
Building a relationship with non-Christians

Christ spent the next nine months inviting people to “Come and Grow”

Mark 1:16-20

“And as He walked by the Sea of Galilee, He saw Simon and Andrew his brother casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. Then Jesus said to them, ‘Follow Me, and I will make you become fishers of men.’ They immediately left their nets and followed Him. When He had gone a little farther from there, He saw James the *son* of Zebedee, and John his brother, who also *were* in the boat mending their nets. And immediately He called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants, and went after Him.”

Christ showed the disciples how to build relationships with non-Christians



The disciples followed Christ when He went to the synagogue
Mark 1:21-28

The disciples invited Christ into their own homes
Mark 1:29-34

The disciples followed Christ when He went to other towns
Mark 1:25-29

The disciples followed Christ when He ministered along the road
Mark 1:40-45

The disciples followed Christ when He visited other homes
Mark 2:1-12

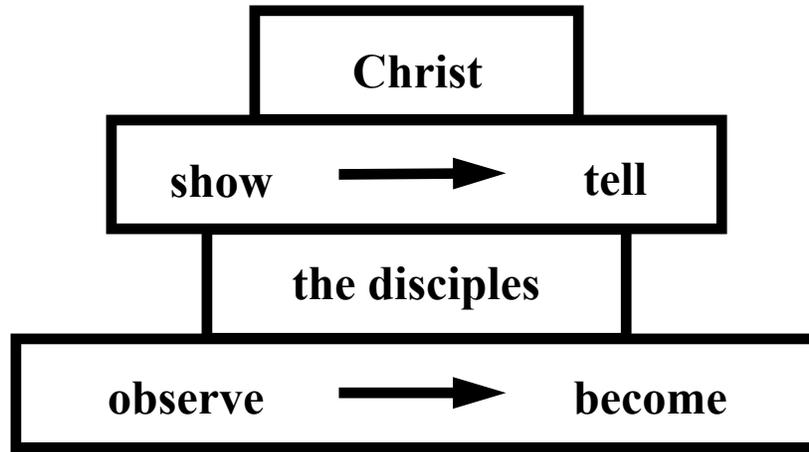
The disciples followed Christ when He was invited to social events
Mark 2:13-17

Building relationships during the “Come and Grow” period

The responsibilities of Christ and the disciples during this period

Mark 1:17

“Then Jesus said to them, ‘Follow Me, and I will make you become fishers of men.’”



The key lessons Christ was teaching during this period

The importance of prayer

Mark 1:35-36

“Now in the morning, having risen a long while before daylight, He went out and departed to a solitary place; and there He prayed. And Simon and those *who were* with Him searched for Him.”



His vision to reach others

Mark 1:38-39

“But He said to them, ‘Let us go into the next towns, that I may preach there also, because for this purpose I have come forth.’ And He was preaching in their synagogues throughout all Galilee, and casting out demons.”

People to be reached in:

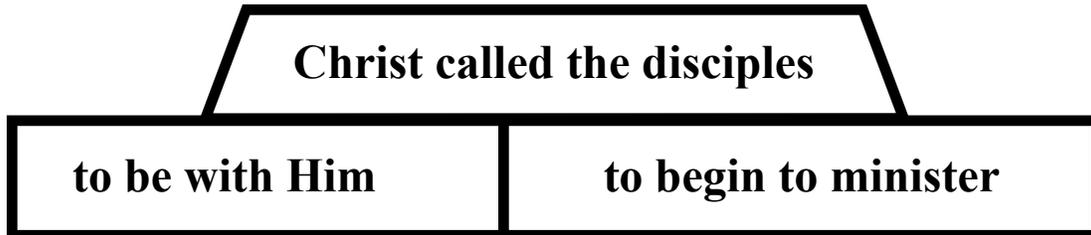
the next towns
the next cities



Christ's focus of ministry during the "Come and Serve" period

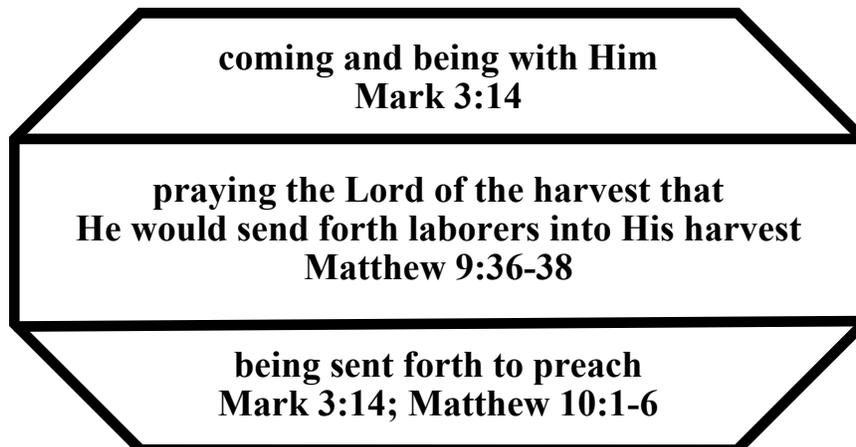
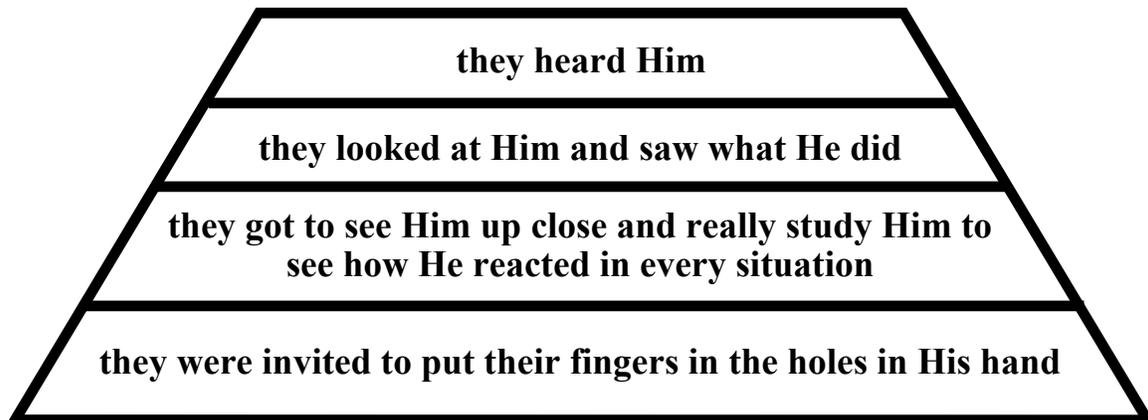
**Christ invited the twelve to continue to develop
Mark 3:13-15**

"And He went up on the mountain and called to *Him* those He Himself wanted. And they came to Him. Then He appointed twelve, that they might be with Him and that He might send them out to preach, and to have power to heal sicknesses and to cast out demons."



The disciples now began to serve as well as observe

**Observing Christ involved four things
1 John 1:1**



Building relationships during the “Come and Serve” period

Christ taught the disciples how to build relationships with crowds

**to build relationships
we must meet people where they are at**

**Recognize the four kinds of people in a crowd
Mark 4:1-20**

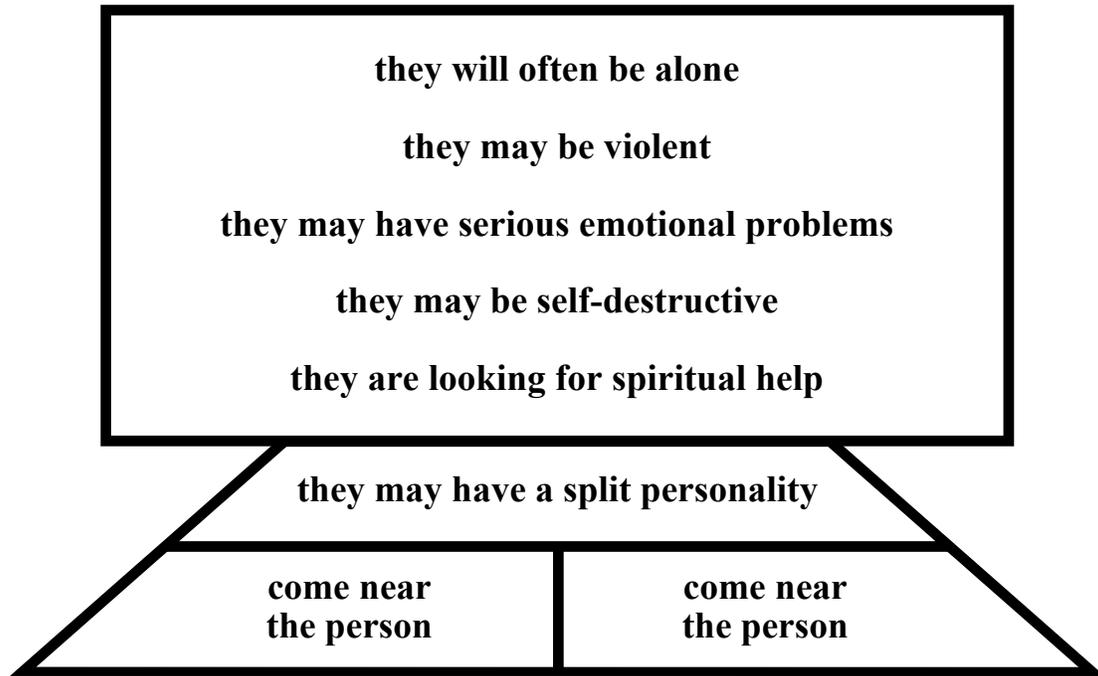
the people by the wayside	hear and forget
the people on stony ground	hear but do not take root
the people on thorny ground	hear but are controlled by distractions
the people on good ground	have open hearts

**Recognize where people are at in their spiritual understanding
Mark 4:26-29**

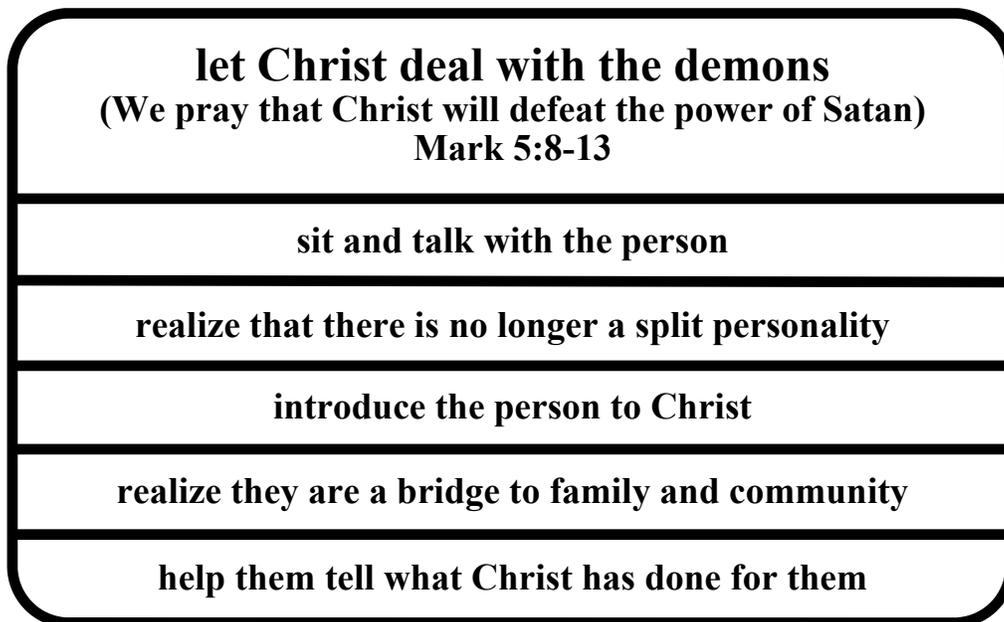
the seed some need the initial seed planted
the blade some are showing initial interest
the ear some are asking many questions
the full grain in the ear some are weighing making a decision
the harvest some are ready to become Christians

Christ taught the disciples how to build relationships with the spiritually oppressed

**Characteristics of the spiritually oppressed
Mark 5:1-7**



**Building relationships with the spiritually oppressed
Mark 5:9-20**



Christ taught the disciples how to build relationships with the hurting

**Characteristics of the hurting
Mark 5:21-43**

they may be dealing with the serious illness of relatives

they may be dealing with their own physical problems

they may be dealing with much suffering

they may have almost given up hope

they may be dealing with death

they may be dealing with people who offer no comfort

Building relationships with the hurting

Christ took time to listen to the hurting

Christ took time to go with the hurting

Christ took time to question the hurting

Christ took time to honor the faith of the hurting

Christ took time to deal with the fear of the hurting

Christ took time to encourage the hurting

Christ took time to deal with hypocrisy

Christ took time to minister to the entire family

Christ took time

Are we taking time to reach out to the hurting?

Christ taught the disciples how to build relationships with the rejected

**The rejected may be from another ethnic group
Mark 7:24-30**

**Christ went to the area where the Greek woman lived
Christ talked to the woman personally
Christ listened to the woman**

**The rejected may be a different age
Mark 10:13-16**

**Christ saw the disciples reject the children and their parents
Christ rebuked the disciples for their lack of concern
Christ took time with the children
Christ blessed the children**

**The rejected may be rejected because of their past
Luke 19:1-10**

**Christ went to Zacchaeus where he was
Christ talked with Zacchaeus
Christ went to the house of Zacchaeus
Christ was rejected for showing kindness to a “sinner”**

**Christ defined His concern which should also be ours
Luke 19:10**

“For the Son of Man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.”

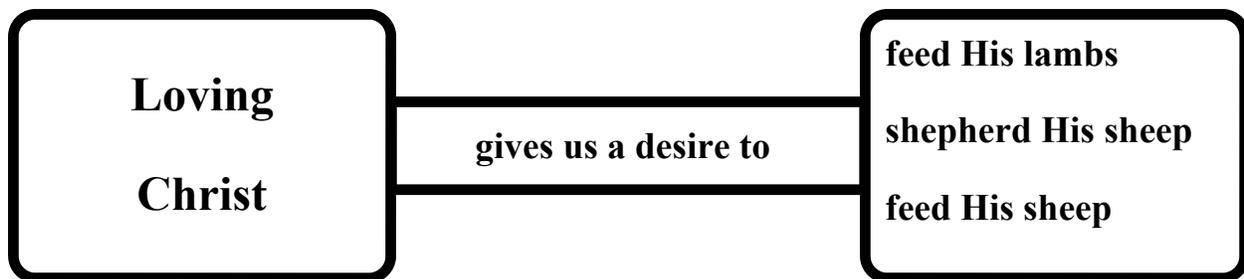
Christ's focus of ministry during the "Come and Shepherd" period

Christ asked the disciples if they loved Him

John 21:15-17

"So when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon, *son* of Jonah, do you love Me more than these?' He said to Him, 'Yes, Lord; You know that I love You.' He said to him, 'Feed My lambs.' He said to him again a second time, 'Simon, *son* of Jonah, do you love Me?' He said to Him, 'Yes, Lord; You know that I love You.' He said to him, 'Tend My sheep.' He said to him the third time, 'Simon, *son* of Jonah, do you love Me?' Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, 'Do you love Me?' And he said to Him, 'Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed My sheep.'"

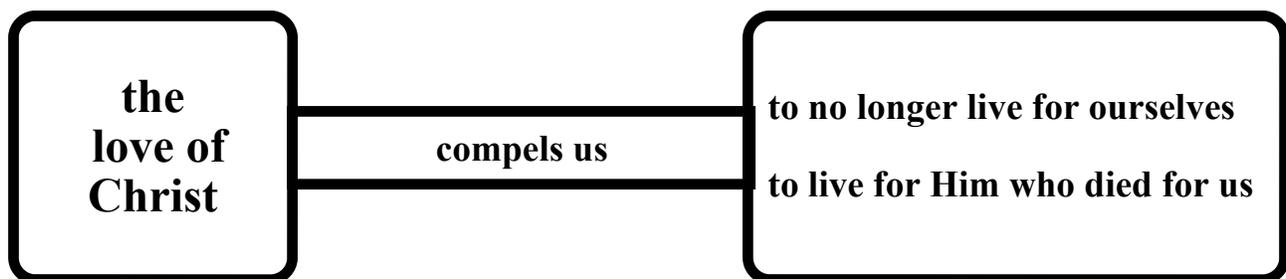
All effective ministry is based on loving Christ



Loving Christ gives us His motivation to build relationships

2 Corinthians 5:14-15

"For the love of Christ compels us, because we judge thus: that if One died for all, then all died; and He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again."



Matthew 9:36-38

"But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd. Then He said to His disciples, 'The harvest truly *is* plentiful, but the laborers *are* few. Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.'"

Our commission requires that we learn how to build relationships

our commission

As you are going, **Make Disciples**
Matthew 28:19-20

Christ sends us just as the Father sent Him
John 20:21

“So Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.’”

we are to build relationships just as Christ built relationships

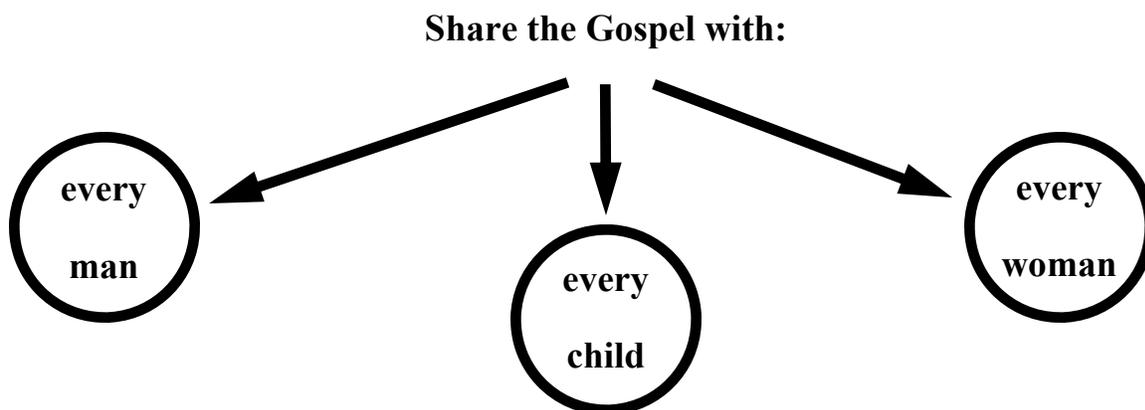
Christ sends us to be witnesses to Him in His power
Acts 1:8

“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

**we are to build relationships through the power that Christ provides,
not in our own strength**

Christ sends us to share the Gospel with each person
Mark 16:15

“And He said to them, ‘Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.’”



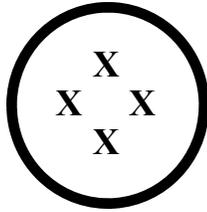
Training others to build relationships with non-Christians

Take a team with us as we visit people in their homes

Matthew 9:9-10

“As Jesus passed on from there, He saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax office. And He said to him, ‘Follow Me.’ So he arose and followed Him. Now it happened, as Jesus sat at the table in the house, *that* behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and sat down with Him and His disciples.”

Minister as a team in evangelism to homes



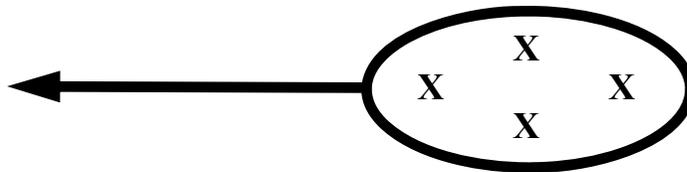
Take a team with us as we attend social events

John 2:1-2

“On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Now both Jesus and His disciples were invited to the wedding.”



Minister as a team at social events

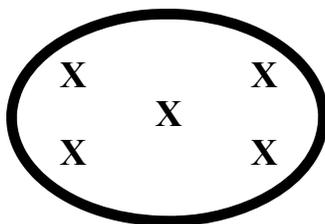


Take a team with us as we travel

Acts 20:4

“And Sopater of Berea accompanied him (Paul) to Asia—also Aristarchus and Secundus of the Thessalonians, and Gaius of Derbe, and Timothy, and Tychicus and Trophimus of Asia.”

Minister as a team when traveling



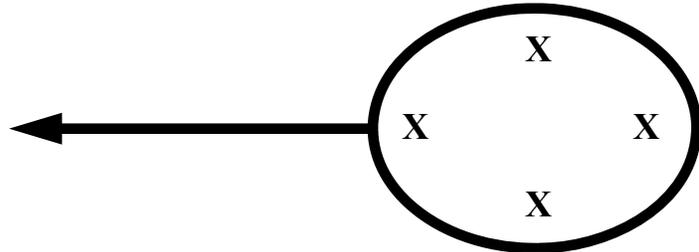
Take a team with us as we minister to the rejected

John 4:26-27

“Jesus said to her, ‘I who speak to you am *He*.’ And at this *point* His disciples came, and they marveled that He talked with a woman; yet no one said, ‘What do You seek?’ or, ‘Why are You talking with her?’”



Minister as a team to the rejected

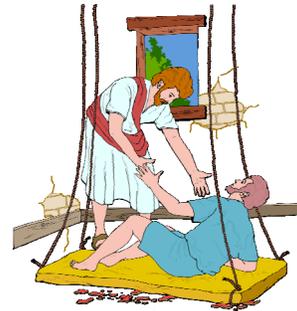
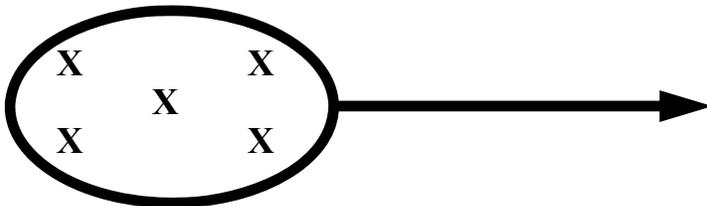


Take a team with us when we visit the sick

Matthew 9:1-2

“So He got into a boat, crossed over, and came to His own city. Then behold, they brought to Him a paralytic lying on a bed. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, ‘Son, be of good cheer; your sins are forgiven you.’”

Minister as a team to the sick

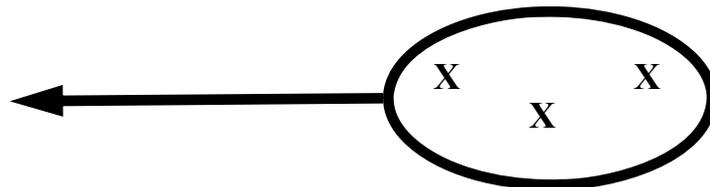


Take a team with us when we visit workplaces during lunch

Acts 17:17

Therefore he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and with the *Gentile* worshipers, and in the marketplace daily with those who happened to be there.

Minister as a team where people work

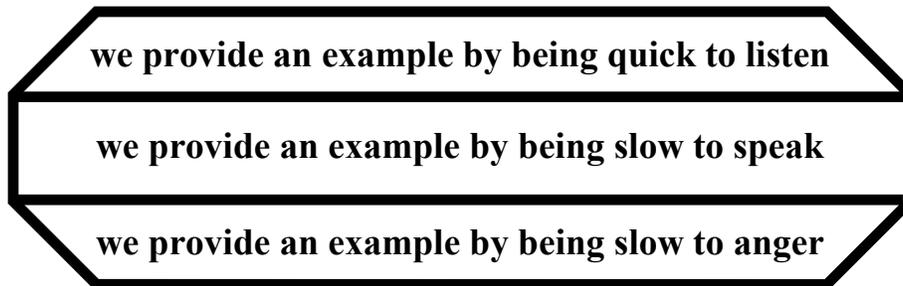


Take a team so that they can observe us as we listen

James 1:19-20

“So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath; for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God.”

Train the team to accept a person when they show rejection



Take a team so that they can observe our compassion

Mark 6:34-37

“And Jesus, when He came out, saw a great multitude and was moved with compassion for them, because they were like sheep not having a shepherd. So He began to teach them many things. When the day was now far spent, His disciples came to Him and said, ‘This is a deserted place, and already the hour *is* late. Send them away, that they may go into the surrounding country and villages and buy themselves bread; for they have nothing to eat.’ But He answered and said to them, You give them something to eat.” And they said to Him, Shall we go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread and give them *something* to eat?’”

Christ gives us an example of the example we should be

