

STRATEGIES FOR REACHING OUT TO THE LOST

Introduction

When God's people understand who they are and they begin to operate in their God given identity, they begin to receive the cry and the passion of the Lord. Prayer is about calling forth the will of God that is in God's heart in order that His will may become manifest on the earth, in the nations and in the cities of the world. God is longing to bring deliverance, healing and salvation, for this is His will. Jesus came to bring freedom to the nations through the message of the gospel.

1 John 3:8 "He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil."

Acts 10:38 "How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him."

I. SOUL WINNING MUST BE PRAYER FOCUSED

- A. God's heart is on the harvest of souls that have yet to respond to the gospel or have not had the gospel preached to. His plan is to save the nations and to strategically send forth messengers as his wisdom dictates.

Acts 16:9-10 "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.'" ¹⁰ Now after he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go to Macedonia, concluding that the Lord had called us to preach the gospel to them."

Acts 18:9 "Now the Lord spoke to Paul in the night by a vision, "Do not be afraid, but speak, and do not keep silent."

Acts 27:23-24 "For there stood by me this night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve, ²⁴ saying, 'Do not be afraid, Paul; you must be brought before Caesar; and indeed God has granted you all those who sail with you.'"

- B. We are to ask God for laborers to work in the harvest field.

Psalms 2:8 "Ask of Me, and I will give You the nations for Your inheritance, And the ends of the earth for Your possession."

1. We must see with prophetic eyes if we are going to have faith for evangelism. People do not come to Christ because believers are not sharing God's love. The lack of sharing God's word is what cripples faith.
Matthew 9:35-38, John 4:34-35, 2 Thess 3:1
2. We must ask the Lord for souls to be saved. It is the will of God for all men to be saved. He does not desire that anyone should perish.

1 Timothy 2:1-4 "Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, ² for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. ³ For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth."

II. ALLOW THE LORD TO USE YOU AS A SOUL WINNER

A. ***"Go your way"***- There needs to be a willingness on our behalf to cooperate with the Holy Spirit in the work of evangelism. *Matt 28:19-20, Mark 16:20, 2 Cor 5:17-20*

B. Be diligent in being about the father's business.

1 Kings 13:9 "For so it was commanded me by the word of the LORD, saying, 'You shall not eat bread, nor drink water, nor return by the same way you came.'"

1 Kings 13:15-24 "Then he said to him, 'Come home with me and eat bread.' And he said, 'I cannot return with you nor go in with you; neither can I eat bread nor drink water with you in this place. ¹⁷ For I have been told by the word of the LORD, 'You shall not eat bread nor drink water there, nor return by going the way you came.'" He said to him, "I too am a prophet as you are, and an angel spoke to me by word of the LORD, saying, 'Bring him back with you to your house, that he may eat bread and drink water.'" (He was lying to him.)¹⁹ So he went back with him, and ate bread in his house, and drank water. Now it happened, as they sat at the table, that the word of the LORD came to the prophet who had brought him back; ²¹ and he cried out to the man of God who came from Judah, saying, "Thus says the LORD: 'Because you have disobeyed the word of the LORD, and have not kept the commandment which the LORD your God commanded you, ²² but you came back, ate bread, and drank water in the place of which the LORD said to you, 'Eat no bread and drink no water,' your corpse shall not come to the tomb of your fathers.'" So it was, after he had eaten bread and after he had drunk, that he saddled the donkey for him, the prophet whom he had brought back. ²⁴ When he was gone, a lion met him on the road and killed him. And his corpse was thrown on the road, and the donkey stood by it. The lion also stood by the corpse."

1. Do not be concerned with the enemies of opposition all around you
- *Luke 10:3*

2. Do not be concerned with how your needs are to be met
- *Luke 10:4*

3. Rest and enjoy the provisions God makes available to us and the open doors that He opens to us. - *Luke 10:5-8*

4. Freely give to those who need the ministry of God's anointing.

Luke 10:9 "And heal the sick there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.'"

5. Do not become personally offended by those who do not receive the ministry of the gospel you offer them.
- *Luke 10:10-11*

III. FOUNDATION OF EVANGELISM IS A RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

- A. A major mistake that many make in the body of Christ is that of trying to earn God's love and approval by what they can do for God. Evangelism and the desire to share God's love to others is grounded in the liberating truth of enjoying God's love in an intimate personal relationship with Him. True "LOVERS" of God will always out work "WORKERS" who feel acceptance comes by being busy for God.

Luke 10:17-20 "Then the seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name." And He said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. ¹⁹ Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you. ²⁰ Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven."

John 14:15 "If you love Me, keep My commandments."

- B. Love for God produces a love in us that will compel us to reach out to those who have needs all around us.

Luke 10:25-37 And behold, a certain lawyer stood up and tested Him, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? What is your reading of it?" ²⁷ So he answered and said, "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and 'your neighbor as yourself.'" And He said to him, "You have answered rightly; do this and you will live." But he, wanting to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Then Jesus answered and said: "A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, who stripped him of his clothing, wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead. ³¹ Now by chance a certain priest came down that road. And when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. ³² Likewise a Levite, when he arrived at the place, came and looked, and passed by on the other side. ³³ But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was. And when he saw him, he had compassion. ³⁴ So he went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; and he set him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. ³⁵ On the next day, when he departed, he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said to him, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I come again, I will repay you.' ³⁶ So which of these three do you think was neighbor to him who fell among the thieves?" ³⁷ And he said, "He who showed mercy on him." Then Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

1. Love God
2. Love your neighbor (those around you)
3. Recognize "coincidences" –*Luke 10:31,33*
4. Do something about the need –*Luke 10:34*
5. Invest your life to be a blessing –*Luke 10:35-37*