

Luke 10: A Model for Outreach

By Allan Love

We are living in an age where Christianity no longer has the home court advantage in our society. Long gone is the era where you could simply start and grow a church by erecting a church building on a street corner and wave a denominational flag. The majority of people in our culture view Christianity as an institutionally stale organization that lacks any relevancy for our age. So how are we to engage people in our world that are not drawn to the many traditional, and even contemporary, expressions of church life? I believe that we find wisdom and guidance from Luke's words in his gospel letter:

¹ After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go. ² He told them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field." ³ Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. ⁴ Do not take a purse or bag or sandals; and do not greet anyone on the road. ⁵ "When you enter a house, first say, 'Peace to this house.'" ⁶ If someone who promotes peace is there, your peace will rest on them; if not, it will return to you. ⁷ Stay there, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his wages. Do not move around from house to house. ⁸ "When you enter a town and are welcomed, eat what is offered to you. ⁹ Heal the sick who are there and tell them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.'" ¹⁰ But when you enter a town and are not welcomed, go into its streets and say, ¹¹ 'Even the dust of your town we wipe from our feet as a warning to you. Yet be sure of this: The kingdom of God has come near.'" (Luke 10:1-11)

From this passage I see the following principles and practices that I believe need to be activated and cultivated in Christ followers - in order to reach people in our post-modern, post-Christendom culture:

1) "Sent them two by two ... into harvest field" – As we connect with non-believers we need to do so in partnership with at least one other believer - that is, we need to reach with a team mentality. Jesus called us to be fishers of men, casting our nets into the waters of our cities. And the use of "nets" clearly suggests that it is the web of our relationships to each other, as believers, which is to be immersed into the lives of those who do not know Jesus. And this immersion is to happen on their turf – not ours, for that is where the harvest field is. **Q.:** Who are you currently reaching out to and with whom?

2) "Do not take a purse or bag or sandals" – When we move towards building relationships with people we should not bring with us any resources outside of ourselves – that is, we need to depend radically and totally on God to provide what we

will need. It's not slick programs or events that will draw people to Christ in our day – it will be genuine, authentic relationships with people that will. And it is *within* those relationships that God will bring forth the necessary resources needed for the journey.

Q.: What resources or baggage on your relying on that you should be leaving behind?

3) "When you enter a house, first say, 'Peace to this house' ... and tell them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you'" – Reaching out to people begins with a posture of peace, kindness and a desire of caring for people holistically. The message of peace is a message of bringing order, restoration and healing into a world marked by chaos, disharmony and pain. Our words need to be flavored and seasoned with grace, love, blessing and hope. To say that God's kingdom "has come near" – means to say that God is present right now to provide healing and freedom to people.

Q.: Do the words you speak generate hope and invoke a sense of blessing?

4) "Stay there, eating and drinking whatever they give you" – Here we see an inversion to what we would typically perceive as the way to connect with people – receiving hospitality from those we are reaching out to. This is meeting people on their turf – in their home, at their table, eating their food. Someone once said, "you know you have made a friend when they invite you to eat at their table."

Q.: Have you been invited out lately into someone's home to eat?

5) "Heal the sick who are there" – The Good News is not only good, it is powerful. It has power over sickness, addictions, emotional wounds and demonic bondage. One of the means by which we can activate, actualize (make real) this power is to pray for people – to pray that God would heal them (in his way and timing). This is not a Pentecostal or charismatic deal – it is what God calls all of his followers to do, whatever their denominational or theological flavor.

Q.: Have you prayed recently for someone to experience God's healing?

In his recent tour-de-force book, *Missional – Joining God in the Neighborhood*, **Alan Roxburgh** recaptures the way of Luke 10 for the church; his words are worth heeding:

"If you want to discover and discern what God is up to in the world just now, stop trying to answer this question from within the walls of your churches. Like strangers in need of hospitality who have left their baggage behind, enter the neighborhoods and communities where you live. Sit at the table of the other, and there you may begin to hear what God is doing."

COIR MEMORIAL

firstBaptistchurch June 22nd, 2011

Lifegroup prayer and praise

My daughter and son-in-law are looking for a small house, if you could know of one, please call me and most especially please pray for this need. ~ **Dee Riddell**

Dennis and Barb Bjornson who have both been having health problems and need prayer. Please pray for **Ron Newman** who had his foot and part of his leg amputated last week.

Delores Chapel asks that we pray for her health, she has been really sick.

Please pray for **Barb Estep's mom**, she has not been doing well and needs to be uplifted in prayer.

Please pray for my friend, she has been raised in Jehovah Witness and when she challenged their doctrine, she was kicked out, she has lost her faith and is mad at God and now is agnostic. I felt the Lord lay this on my heart and I am not sure what to do next. ~ **David McCormick**

Christy McCormick asks that we continue to pray for her job search.

Please pray that **my mom** in her final days, will see the love of Christ and believe the truth of the cross.

~**Claire Bird**

Please pray for **Kris Green** a teacher in the Everett SD, and her family. **Her son, Andy**, has been diagnosed with cancer. He is currently in treatment and the family is believing for a full healing

Ashley Todd's sister Amanda has a brain tumor, please pray for her.

My family, **wife and 2 daughters**, will be traveling to Kenya, Africa for 6 weeks, please pray for safety.

~**Peter Gatata**

Don Grundl's mother was diagnosed with a cyst in her uterus that they believe is cancer, she has had cancer in the past and was able to beat it.

Lora Wilson, Dan Cook's principal has been diagnosed with uterine cancer and will not be finishing the year. Please pray for her.

Please pray for wisdom and strength for me and pray for my back and neck as they have been really hurting.

~**Carol Kelly**

We still have several unspoken health prayer needs, please continue to pray for these.

John Lindsey is facing surgery to remove a tumor on his brain, please pray for God's peace and healing.

Pray for relief from anxiety attacks. ~ **Sharon Young**

Please pray for my mom to know Christ and that she would be healed. ~**Darcy Stanyo**

Rose Toscano needs prayer for a new job.

Can you please keep praying for my husband's friend **Les Smith** he is still going through their cancer treatments.

Please pray for **Brooklyn McCormick**.

Please remember to pray for our son-in-law **Al Carter** who had a stroke on 3/29/09 and is totally paralyzed. ~

Lysle & Lois Pickard

We need canopies (labeled, please) for Fun In The Sun

Pray for our Military

- **John Schwartz**—in Afghanistan—**Robin Schwartz** stateside in Everett.
- **Jason Peery**—Oregon National Guard—heading to Iraq for a year, brother of Jennifer.
- **Jonathan Michaels Estrella**—son of Sharon Boswell.
- **Jason Bjazevich**—Megan Owenby's husband—Army Special Forces— Stationed in N. Carolina.
- **Scott Harpell**—son of Brian & Lynne—Stationed at Fort Carson, CO.
- **Aaron Weston**—nephew of Ken and Kathy—Stationed in San Diego.
- **Eric Schmidt** — son of Gene and Pat Schmidt — Camp Fallujah, Iraq.
- **Benjamin Lagonia**—dear friend of the Naylor family—stationed in Manitoba.
- **Brett Love**—grandson of Wilma—Army National Guard—Serving at home.
- **Christian Chmielewski**—nephew of JoAnn Couturie' - in the Marines.
- **ENS Andrew E. Timpner** (fiancé to Christin Suthard) on deployment with USS Momsen.
- **Devin Abbitt**—nephew of Paul Abbitt - Marine, stateside.
- **Duane Neyens** brother to Kathy Chapman—Army National Guard —is back at his home base in So.CA.
- **Philip Ankney**-LCPL Afghanistan Cousin of MaryAnn Peterson.
- **Jeffrey Lillard**—son of Barbara Lillard — Srg. In Army, Stationed at Fort Lewis.
- **Aaron Chmielewski**—joined the Marines. Nephew of JoAnn Couturie
- **Shawn Berland**—deploying for 6 months
- **Andrew Sustaita**—serving on board the USS Abraham Lincoln



Lifegroup Happenings

all in the family *by florence miller*

Ross Point Camp First Aid/Nurse needed for the weeks of June 26-July 1st and July 3-8. Minimum qualifications are current CPR and First Aid with Blood borne Pathogen training. If you are interested please contact John@rosspoint.org.

The Good News in our church family today is that our concerns and petitions go directly to our Lord who is gracious in His love and compassion. **Ron Newman, Barbara** and **Dennis Bjornson** and **Phyllis Rubin** are those in particular who have indicated their needs to us.

Phyllis Rubin is in the Colby campus hospital, room #822 and will probably be there until this weekend, reports her husband, **Solly**. No other information but the Lord knows the needs.

Ron Newman's amputation surgery of his foot and partial calf went well. His good friends **Barb Lilliard** and **Ray Reeves** report that his therapy is also going well and that he seems to have a positive attitude. Since Ron is also a type A diabetic there could be complications in the healing process. Ron is in Bethany, room 235, phone # 425-252-1634.

Barb Bjornson, former FBC members and current SAM members was rushed to the hospital on the 18th with a high fever and a great deal of pain. **Dennis** writes the following: "I called 911 and she was whisked to the new Swedish emergency unit on 128th S.E. They found that she has a very serious infection in her blood stream. They soon decided that she would be better served at Providence Hospital so it was back in Aid car. I went home at around midnight. At 2:00 a.m. her doctor called me saying that her blood pressure had dropped seriously low and that she was being moved to the Critical Care Unit. By the time I was back she was being treated with an amazing amount of drips: a broad antibiotic, pain control, blood pressure control, electrolyte replacement and more. She had innumerable tests. Her nurses have been wonderful, but her poor right arm wouldn't take all the needles and drips after the first day so they and a specialist put in a main line trunk port up near her collar bone area. Her Sunday was pretty grim but I can now report that she seemed improved today (Tuesday, the 14th). The most important part, I think, is her blood pressure is stabilized and is now normal. The infection is not beaten yet, so that battle is still going on. It is a bacterial infection which I think is good news in that it is responding to the antibiotic although slowly. When I left tonight she was well enough to tell me she loved me. I praise God that we are seeing improvements in her condition."

Further information is that **Barbara** is now home, although weak. She will be going back daily for the next week to get antibiotic injections. As for **Dennis**, who was slated to begin procedures for an eventual knee replacement, will be taking care of Barbara instead and will follow up on it later.

For these friends and others, we offer our prayers for their recovery and our love.

And on an upbeat note: **Ellen Stark** is giving praise for her answered prayer about being able to purchase a boat. As she called, she was off in it, out in the ocean. May she be protected!

***Adult attendance: 9:00am 57 & 10:30am 207 ||

***Children: 9am 2 + 3 — 10:30am 24 + 7

***Elementary: 9am 19 + 4 — 10:30 am 29 + 6 ||

***Middle School: 19 + 2 — Youth Small Group: 15 + 3

Happy June Birthday to...

Janet Duvarde, Kim Edwards and **Sharon Manuel** the 22nd
Pam Elkins, Darlene Høgeberg and **Steve Jansen** on the 23rd

Robert Johnson on the 24th

Bryan Blair and **Janet Tracy** on the 25th

Kristen Goodman, Laura Oversvæg and **Fred Ray** on the 27th

...and **Bill Døller, Nathan Hall** and **Marc Owenby** all on the 28th

Congregational meeting - June 26th, 9:00 am

The SAM picnic is July 15th. Have you signed up for it? Summer will surely be here by then! It is important that we know how many to plan for the good ribs or chicken and also transportation needs. Cost is \$5.00 plus bringing either a salad or dessert. Fun! Fun!

Dues are now due. They are \$10.00 and help pay for the good programs Wilma Love obtains for us.

S.A.M. Update

Lifegroup Contributing Opportunities

USHER CAPTAIN 2011:

June—Darrell Olson
 Marc Owenby
 July—Peter Sontra
 Luckey Elkins

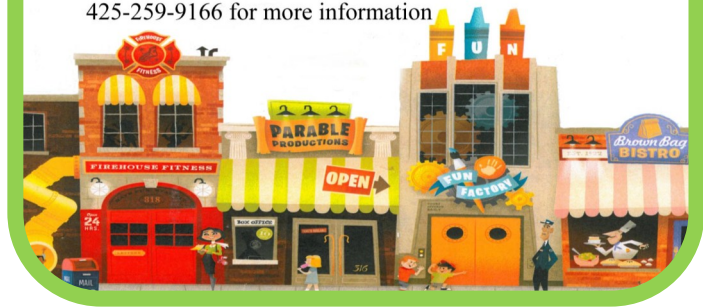
COFFEE HOUR Schedule

June 26th
 Tom Warren
 The Followers
 July 3rd
 Lyle Gordon
 SAM
 July 10th
 Ken Ackerman
 Men's Lifegroup
 July 17th
 Ruelyn Nelson
 Women of Purpose

Offering 6-19-11 | \$8,400.73

VBS 2011


June 27th thru July 1st - 9:00 to 12:00 noon
 Ages: Kindergarten thru 5th grade
 Sign up online: www.fbc-everett.org
 First Baptist Church, 1616 Pacific Ave.
 425-259-9166 for more information



Street Hockey Introduction Camp with Coach Jay Varady | June 25th | 9-10:15 AM. For kids ages 6-8 years old (12 kids), kids 9-10 years old (12 kids), kids 11-13 years old (12 kids). Camp capacity is 36. A filled out **medical release form** is required to hold your place. You must return the **completed medical release form**, available on our website under Ministries-Youth.

First come, first make the team.

we still have spaces



FUN in the SUN

Where? - Pacific and Wetmore
 When? - 1:00 to 3:00 pm
 FREE: Pony rides
 Snocones
 Cotton Candy



July 4th
 Family Oriented Games and Entertainment



Climbing With Jesus
 Wednesdays - 12 noon to 1 pm
 July 6th to Sept. 14th
 Dr. Fred Prinzing

Greeters needed, please contact Carol Kelly