

CLOSER TO THE UNCHURCHED

October 1st, 2017

Closer to the Unchurched

'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these. - Mark 12:30-31 NIV

Jesus...gave his charge: "God authorized and commanded me to commission you: Go out and train everyone you meet, far and near, in this way of life, marking them by baptism in the threefold name: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Then instruct them in the practice of all I have commanded you. I'll be with you as you do this, day after day after day, right up to the end of the age." - Matthew 28:18-20 MSG

Four Compass Points for Good News-ing Our Globe

 The North Point: <u>FOLLOW THE EXAMPLE OF</u> JESUS.

While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many tax collectors and sinners came and ate with Him and His disciples. - Matthew 9:10 NIV

On hearing this, Jesus said, 'It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick... For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners. - Matthew 9:12-13 NIV

2. The East Point: **GET CLOSE TO THE FATHER'S CHILDREN**.

If anyone boasts, "I love God," and goes right on hating his brother or sister, thinking nothing of it, he is a liar. If he won't love the person he can see, how can he love the God he can't see? The command we have from Christ is blunt: Loving God includes loving people. You've got to love both. - 1 John 4:20-21 MSG

3. The South Point: SERVE AS A WITNESS.

(Jesus said) "You will be my witnesses..." - Acts 1:8 NIV

I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.

- Luke 15:7 NIV

4. The West Point: **BE ON-MISSION FOR GOD**.

The most important thing is that I complete my mission, the work that the Lord Jesus gave me—to tell people the Good News about God's grace. - Acts 20:24 NCV

My Next Step This Week...

Memorize Acts	1:8.
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- Start developing friendships with the unchurched so that I can have the opportunity to share Christ with them!
- Get involved in deeper community through a small group!
- ☐ Give my life to Jesus as Savior and Lord, for the first time.

Walk the Talk

A Small Group Discussion Guide

- 1. What holds you back from actively passing on the Good News of Christ? Feeling like you don't know enough? Feeling like you don't have the time? Feeling like others are better at it? Or simply just ignoring it?
- 2. Read Matthew 28:16-21 aloud to the group.
 - a. What is Jesus' central command in the Great Commission?
 - b. What three ways are they to carry it out?
 - c. How is the Passion narrative (Christ's crucifixion, resurrection) so critical to this commission?
- 3. Read Mark 16:15-20 aloud to the group.
 - a. What is different about Mark's version compared to Matthew's, above?
 - b. Why are the "signs" so important to the endeavor of the Great Commission? Are they still with us today? Why or Why not?
 - c. Why is Christ's ascension to the right hand of God so important to fulfilling the Great Commission?
- 4. Read Luke 24:45-49 and Acts 1:8 aloud to the group.
 - a. How is Luke's "witness" theme adding to the Great Commission?
 - b. How is Luke's empowerment theme by the Holy Spirit so crucial to being the right kind of witness?
- 5. Have a time of prayer for a greater personal investing in sharing the Good News this fall season.