

"I'm In" - Connect

September 9, 2026

I'm In.

Craig Smith • September 13, 2026 • Connect

*Enlarge the place of your tent, stretch your tent curtains wide, do not hold back; lengthen your cords, strengthen your stakes. For you will spread out to the right and to the left. (**Isaiah 54:2-3a**)*

- **There is low-hanging fruit ready to be picked** – “Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. He wanted to see who Jesus was, but being a short man he could not, because of the crowd. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way.” (**Luke 19:1-4**)

- **The first step to loving your neighbors is to see them** – “When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, ‘Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today.’ So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly.” (**Luke 19:5-6**)

Evaluate how you’ve been strategically placed – “From one man He made every nation of men, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and He determined the times set for them and the exact places where they should live. God did this so that men would seek Him and perhaps reach out for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us.” (**Acts 17:26-27**)

But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumphal procession in Christ and through us spreads everywhere the fragrance of the

knowledge of Him. (**2 Cor. 2:14**)

• **Never underestimate the kingdom impact of an underdog**

– “All the people saw this and began to mutter, ‘He has gone to be the guest of a sinner.’ But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, ‘Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and save what was lost.’” (**Luke 19:7-10**)

The motivation is always love – “For Christ’s love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all.” (**2 Cor. 5:14a**)

Engaging the vision all begins by sitting with one question: who are my few?

He appointed twelve – designating them apostles – that they might be with Him and that He might send them out to preach and to have authority to drive out demons. (**Mark 3:14-15**)

And He has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making His appeal through us. (**2 Cor. 5:19b-20a**)