

## Friend Day 4

### Lesson 4

#### *Household Salvation*

**I. Intro.** In today's lesson I want to continue developing the concept of relational evangelism by teaching you about Household Salvation.

A. Relational evangelism focuses on people that know us; our friends, relatives, associates, and neighbors.

B. For this reason relational evangelism is sometimes called "Frangelism".

C. It can be a fun way to reach out to people, and the great thing is that we can do it as a team.

D. The Greek word oikos, which appears in some form in most of the scripture passages we are about to look at, is translated **house or household** in English.

E. The word oikos refers to a wider group of persons than we mean today by the word household.

F. It includes immediate family, extended family, friends, people we work with, our neighbors, and other people we frequently associate with.

G. The church in the first century grew because early Christians shared the Good News with people that belonged to their "oikos".

H. The church has always grown best when Christians share with family, friends, and associates, and neighbors.

#### **II. The Main Method of Evangelism.**

A. In the Gospels and the book of Acts, especially in chapters 10 and following, the "main method" of evangelism of the early church emerges.

B. It is not a program or a well-oiled scheme—it is what we will call "*oikos evangelism*".

C. "Oikos" is the Greek word for "household", but we must be careful not to read into this term our own concept of the nuclear family.

D. A Greco-Roman household contained not only several generations of the same family, but also included servants, the families of servants, friends, and even business associates.

E. Essentially, new believers shared their faith with other members of their "oikos", and thus people came to faith through networks of relationships.

F. Not only church history, but also modern research has shown that the vast majority of persons come to faith through the witness of a friend.

## **G. WHY PEOPLE COME TO CHURCH** (*Research by the Institute for American church Growth*)

1. Special Need 1-2 %
2. Walk-in 2-3%
3. Pastor 5-6%
4. Visitation 1-2%
5. Sunday School 4-5%
6. Crusade  $\frac{1}{2}$ %
7. Church Program 2-3%
8. Friend/relative 75-90%

### **III. Examples of household evangelism**

**A. Look what Jesus told the Gadarene demoniac after He cast the demons out of Him. (*Mark 5:1-20 NKJV*)** *Then they came to the other side of the sea, to the country of the Gadarenes. <sup>2</sup> And when He had come out of the boat, immediately there met Him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit, <sup>3</sup> who had his dwelling among the tombs; and no one could bind him, not even with chains, <sup>4</sup> because he had often been bound with shackles and chains. And the chains had been pulled apart by him, and the shackles broken in pieces; neither could anyone tame him. <sup>5</sup> And always, night and day, he was in the mountains and in the tombs, crying out and cutting himself with stones. <sup>6</sup> When he saw Jesus from afar, he ran and worshiped Him. <sup>7</sup> And he cried out with a loud voice and said, "What have I to do with You, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I implore<sup>[c]</sup> You by God that You do not torment me." <sup>8</sup> For He said to him, "Come out of the man, unclean spirit!" <sup>9</sup> Then He asked him, "What is your name?" And he answered, saying, "My name is Legion; for we are many." <sup>10</sup> Also he begged Him earnestly that He would not send them out of the country. <sup>11</sup> Now a large herd of swine was feeding there near the mountains. <sup>12</sup> So all the demons begged Him, saying, "Send us to the swine, that we may enter them." <sup>13</sup> And at once Jesus gave them permission. Then the unclean spirits went out and entered the swine (there were about two thousand); and the herd ran violently down the steep place into the sea, and drowned in the sea. <sup>14</sup> So those who fed the swine fled, and they told it in the city and in the country. And they went out to see what it was that had happened. <sup>15</sup> Then they came to Jesus, and saw the one who had been demon-possessed and had the legion, sitting and clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. <sup>16</sup> And those who saw it told them how it happened to him who had*

been demon-possessed, and about the swine. <sup>17</sup> Then they began to plead with Him to depart from their region. <sup>18</sup> And when He got into the boat, he who had been demon-possessed begged Him that he might be with Him. <sup>19</sup> However, Jesus did not permit him, but said to him, "Go home to your friends, and tell them what great things the Lord has done for you, and how He has had compassion on you." <sup>20</sup> And he departed and began to proclaim in Decapolis all that Jesus had done for him; and all marveled.

B. Levi invited fellow tax collectors to dinner with Jesus and His disciples, and many believed in Jesus and followed Him. (Mark 2:13-17 NKJV) <sup>13</sup> Then He went out again by the sea; and all the multitude came to Him, and He taught them. <sup>14</sup> As He passed by, He saw Levi the son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax office. And He said to him, "Follow Me." So he arose and followed Him. <sup>15</sup> 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. <sup>16</sup> And when the scribes and Pharisees saw Him eating with the tax collectors and sinners, they said to His disciples, "How is it that He eats and drinks with tax collectors and sinners?" <sup>17</sup> When Jesus heard it, He said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance."

C. Lydia heard the Gospel through the ministry of Paul. So she brought her household to hear him. They also believed and were baptized. (Acts 16:14-15 NKJV) <sup>14</sup> Now a certain woman named Lydia heard us. She was a seller of purple from the city of Thyatira, who worshiped God. The Lord opened her heart to heed the things spoken by Paul. <sup>15</sup> And when she and her household were baptized, she begged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay." So, she persuaded us.

D. Zacchaeus' salvation led to the salvation of his whole household. (Luke 19:1-10 NKJV) Then Jesus entered and passed through Jericho. <sup>2</sup> Now behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus who was a chief tax collector, and he was rich. <sup>3</sup> And he sought to see who Jesus was, but could not because of the crowd, for he was of short stature. <sup>4</sup> So he ran ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Him, for He was going to pass that way. <sup>5</sup> And when Jesus came to the place, He looked up <sup>[a]</sup> and saw him, and said to him, "Zacchaeus, make haste and come down, for today I must stay at your house." <sup>6</sup> So he made haste and came down, and received Him joyfully. <sup>7</sup> But when they saw it, they

*all complained, saying, "He has gone to be a guest with a man who is a sinner."<sup>8</sup> Then Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord, I give half of my goods to the poor; and if I have taken anything from anyone by false accusation, I restore fourfold."<sup>9</sup> And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he also is a son of Abraham;<sup>10</sup> for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."*

#### **IV. Conclusion**

A. Be conscious of the fact that every person you minister to has a household. You are not just ministering to one person, you are ministering to his or her household.

B. Let's be aware that this was the primary pattern of New Testament evangelism and let's use this pattern intentionally to minister to the households of the people in our church.

#### **V. Friend Day Lesson 3 Homework**

A. Pray over these four points daily.

1. Look to Jesus
2. Look Up. Jesus is coming soon.
3. Look to Yourself.
4. Look at the Harvest.

B. Ask God to build confidence and assurance in your life that you are qualified to minister to your friends.

C. Continue to pray for your friends, relatives, associates, and neighbors. Ask God to show you what characteristics of scattered sheep they have.

D. Ask God to show you how to begin to encourage them and how to meet some of their 7 heartfelt needs.

E. Keep working on memorizing these four verses. The Romans Road of Salvation

1. Rom. 3:23 NKJV Man's Need

*<sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.*

2. Rom. 6:23 NKJV Sin's Penalty

*<sup>23</sup> For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

3. Rom. 5:8 NKJV God's Provision

*<sup>8</sup> But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*

#### 4. Rom. 10:9 NKJV Man's Response

*<sup>9</sup> that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.*

F. Continue to write down names of people that God brings to your mind to invite to Friendship Sunday. Ask the Lord, "Who are the friends that you want me to minister to?" Write down 5 names and begin to pray for them. Write those 5 names down and bring the list to church next week. Make two copies. One for yourself to keep and one for the Pastor's Prayer Circle to begin to pray for.

G. If you cannot think of a friend, then ask the Lord to open your eyes to people around you who are demonstrated the signs of a scattered sheep. Ask God to show you how to minister to that person.

---

Cut along this line and bring the bottom half back to church with you next week.

Focus on your unsaved friends and relatives or some believer who is out of fellowship and needs to be restored.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_