

## Friends don't let friends live without Jesus.



Take some time to identify 3 people you know who are far from God and commit to praying for them regularly.



# • that their eyes would be opened

He has **blinded their eyes** and hardened their heart, lest they see with their eyes, and understand with their heart, and turn...



...having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints...

#### Ephesians 1:18

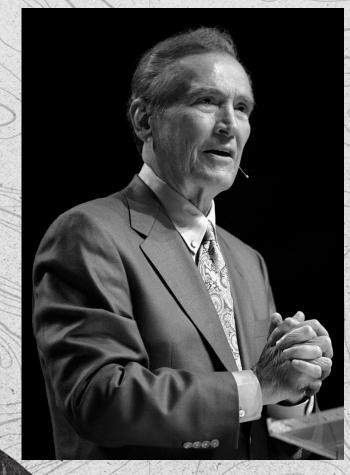
...there is **salvation in no one else**, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.



# Pray... that their eyes would be opened

#### • that they see, sense, and hear Jesus in me.

"The greatest argument for Jesus and the greatest argument against Jesus is the life of a Christian."



#### **Adrian Rogers**

Jesus said..."you are the light of the world...let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."

#### Matthew 5:14,16



#### Life Principle

Jesus didn't let a man's past stand in the way of his future.

# "For the <u>Son of Man came</u> to **seek** [vision] and to **save** [mission] the lost."

#### Luke 19:10

## Jesus is the <mark>"Son of man"</mark>

#### Messianic title used by Jesus to express his heavenly origin, earthly mission

MESSIANIC TITLE, 82 times in Scripture; used by Jesus to express his heavenly origin and earthly mission.

#### "For the Son of Man came to seek [vision]

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#### Luke 19:10

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ἔρχομαι – *erchomai* used only three times

Luke 19:10

• Identify "For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

- Luke 19:10

## Identify

"For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

– Luke 19:10

# • Invite

"The <u>Son of Man came</u> eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!'..." – Matthew 11:19

#### THREE QUALITIES OF THE INVITATIONS EVERYONE NEEDS

#### The invitation to Jesus needs to be 1) CLEAR "follow me"

#### Life Principle

Jesus accepts us as we are, but he loves us enough not to leave us there.

After this he went out and saw a tax collector named Levi sitting at the tax booth. And he said to him...



"Jesus is not calling these disciples because of who they are, but *in spite* of who they are."

#### David Platt

#### THREE QUALITIES OF THE INVITATIONS EVERYONE NEEDS

#### The invitation to Jesus needs to be • CLEAR "follow me"

# [21 times in the Gospels]

#### **Clarifying Question:**

# What is being asked of me?

"It is significant that the Greek words for 'come after' and 'follow' are different. 'Come after' is an impersonal line-up behind, or line-up after, in lockstep fashion. In contrast, 'follow' is a deeply personal invitation to 'walk alongside' or 'journey beside.'"

#### Leonard Sweet, I Am a Follower

You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you... – John 15:16

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- If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. Luke 9:23

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  - You cannot become my disciple without giving up everything you own. Luke 14:33 (NLT)

#### If you are leading, you are not following; If you are following, you are not leading.

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name? Will you go where you don't know and never be the same? Will you let my love be shown? Will you let my name be known? Will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

#### John Bell, The Summons

# And leaving everything, he rose and followed him.



#### THREE QUALITIES OF THE INVITATIONS EVERYONE NEEDS

#### The invitation to Jesus needs to be 1) CLEAR 2) BARRIER BREAKER

And Levi made him a great feast in his house, and there was a large company of tax collectors and others reclining at table with them. <sup>30</sup> And the Pharisees and their scribes grumbled at his disciples, saying, "Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?"

#### Luke 5:29-30

# **Clarifying Question:**

# Who is welcomed?

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#### Eats with the "WORST"

Why do you eat and drink with such scum? - v. 30 (NLT)

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#### Eats with the "BEST"

One of the Pharisees asked him to eat with him, and he went into the Pharisee's house and reclined at table....

- Luke 7:36

- Luke 5: We see Jesus eating with Levi and a bunch of tax collectors.
- Luke 7: Jesus is anointed at the home of Simon the Pharisee during a meal.
- Luke 9: Jesus feeds the five thousand.
- Luke 10: Jesus eats in the home of Martha and Mary.
- Luke 11: Jesus condemns the Pharisees and teachers of the law at a meal.
- Luke 14: Jesus is at a meal when he urges people to invite the poor to their meals rather than their friends.
- Luke 19: Jesus invites himself to dinner with Zacchaeus.
- Luke 22: we have the account of the Last Supper.
- Luke 24: the risen Christ has a meal with the two disciples in Emmaus, and then later eats fish with the disciples in Jerusalem.

#### Tim Chester, A Meal with Jesus

#### "Meals represent 'boundary markers."

### Mary Douglas, British Anthropologist

"Go out to the highways and hedges and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. <sup>24</sup> For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet."

#### Luke 14:23-24



Gospel conversations happen best in relationship. Invite someone into a safe space where you can begin to form a meaningful relationship. Here's a few ideas:

- Invite them to go grab coffee or a meal
- н

Have them over for a game or dinner at your home

Find a shared hobby and participate together

Host a neighborhood cookout with your small group

#### THREE QUALITIES OF THE INVITATIONS EVERYONE NEEDS

#### The invitation to Jesus needs to be 1) CLEAR 2) BARRIER BREAKER 3) RESTORATIVE

#### **Clarifying Question:**

# How does Jesus restore?

"For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. 18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God."

#### John 3:17-18

#### GRACE POINT CHURCH VISION STATEMENT

# We for those who have given up on the church but have not given up on God

