

# WHY

*we do what we do*



● Jesus didn't tell us to make converts, he told us to make disciples.

● Being a disciple is learning to be obedient.

19 Therefore go and make disciples in all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and then teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you; and be sure of this—that I am with you always, even to the end of the world." Matthew 28:19-20 (TLB)

● We can't wait for someone else to reach the people that we care about."

19 Therefore go and make disciples...Matthew 28:19 (TLB)

8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Acts 1:8 (NLT)

18 ...God brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him. 19 For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message (ministry) of reconciliation. 20 So we are Christ's ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, "Come back to God!" 2 Corinthians 5:18-20 (NLT)

20 We are Christ's ambassadors. God is using us to speak to you: we beg you, as though Christ himself were here pleading with you, receive the love he offers you—be reconciled to God. 2 Corinthians 5:20 (TLB)

● God has a strategy to reach the lost, and you're it.

We'll never be willing to share our faith until:

● The people in our life are worth the risk.

● We accept that people's choices matter.

13 "You can enter God's Kingdom only through the narrow gate. The highway to hell is broad, and its gate is wide for the many who choose that way. 14 But the gateway to life is very narrow and the road is difficult, and only a few ever find it. Matthew 7:13-14 (NLT)

● We're convinced where lost people go.

41 ...Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. Matthew 25:41(NIV)

He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the majesty of his power... 2 Thessalonians 1:8-9 (NIV)

● When we're convinced that hell is real, we'll do all we can to reach all we can.

Then the rich man said, 'Please, send Lazarus to my father's home. For I have five brothers, and I want him to warn them about this place of torment so they won't have to come here when they die.' Luke 16:27-28 (NLT)

To reach people that others are not reaching:

- We will stop at nothing; We will give up anything to be a part of reaching the lost.
- We have to do things that others are not doing.
- We have to do things that we've never done before.

Reaching people means:

● We invest in people.

Invest in praying for people disconnected from God.

1 My friends, how I wish with all my heart that my own people might be saved! How I pray to God for them! Romans 10:1 (TEV)

2 Pray diligently. Stay alert, with your eyes wide open in gratitude. 3 Don't forget to pray for us, that God will open doors for telling the mystery of Christ, even while I'm locked up in this jail. 4 Pray that every time I open my mouth I'll be able to make Christ plain as day to them. Colossians 4:2-4 (MSG)

Invest in relationships with people that are disconnected from God.

28 The woman left her water jar beside the well and ran back to the village, telling everyone, 29 "Come and see a man who told me everything I ever did! Could he possibly be the Messiah?" 30 So the people came streaming from the village to see him. John 4:28-30 (NLT)

● We invite people.

9 As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at his tax collector's booth. "Follow me and be my disciple," Jesus said to him. So Matthew got up and followed him. 10 Later, Matthew invited Jesus and his disciples to his home as dinner guests, along with many tax collectors and other disreputable sinners.

11 But when the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with such scum?"

12 When Jesus heard this, he said, "Healthy people don't need a doctor—sick people do."

Matthew 9:9-12 (NLT)

● We include people.



## TO CREATIVELY LOVE AND LEAD PEOPLE IN A GROWING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.

### Questions for Connection Groups:

*These questions also work well for personal time with God.*

- What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday? Explain why?
- Talk about the difference between converts and disciples. Read Matthew 28:19-20, what does it say we're suppose to do for new disciples?
- How dose this value affect "Why we do what we do" as a church, and as individuals?
- Why is important that we don't wait for someone else to reach the people we care about?
- Are the people you care about worth the risk of sharing your faith?
- Does the consequences of other people's choices motivate you to share your faith?
- Are you convinced where lost people go? Does it motivate you to share your faith?
- What are you willing to do, that you have never done, to reach those you care about?
- If all you could do was pray, how passionate would your prayers be?
- Because we know where lost people go, are you inviting people to come with you to church?
- How can we reach people by including them?

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