

Church of the Promise

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Infusion

Become

Believe

Belong

Befriend

#3 Winning the Lost

INFUSING THE LIFE FOUND IN CHRIST
THROUGH FAITH IN GOD'S VITAL PRECEPTS,
MAKING EVERY MEMBER WHOLE
SPIRIT, SOUL & BODY

Winning the Lost

Session #3



Adapted & Condensed from Praying Effectively for the Lost

By Pastor Lee E. Thomas

The lost cannot and will not be saved unless someone prays for them. The Biblical portrayal of the lost is 26:18

A strong mans house. Mark 3:27

Prisoners of war Isaiah. 14:17

Blinded to the Gospel. II Corinthians 4:3-4

Children of the devil. John 8:44

Under Satan's authority. Acts 26:18

God has placed praying for others as the number one priority in our lives. Hear the cry of God's heart,

1 Timothy 2:1-4

- 1. I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone--*
- 2. for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.*
- 3. This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.*

The greatest example of all is the Lord Jesus Himself. The prophecy in Isaiah 53 says that Christ "made intercession for the transgressors." This prophecy was literally fulfilled when on the cross he prayed "*Father forgive them for they know not what they do.*" **Luke 23:34** and in **John 17: He continues to do so even now.**

Hebrews 7:25

There are two factors or conditions involved in every answered prayer - **righteousness and faith.**

The imputed _____ of Christ, which comes through his shed blood. Personal righteousness is also crucial.

***Psalms 66:18** If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened;*

The Born Again spirit has access to answered prayer through His words.

***John 15:7** If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you.*

The other necessary factor in all answered prayer is faith. This is an unbreakable law in the spiritual realm. It is **always** “*according to your faith be it unto you.*” *Matt 9:29* Unbelief is continually our “besetting sin” and it is more often than not the cause of an answered prayer. So when we pray for the lost we need righteousness, imputed and personal, and we need faith. But there are other factors that are important to this task.

Travail Isaiah 66:8, Luke 22:

Persistence Isaiah 14:7

Fasting Mark 9:29

Some controlling spirits are so strong that prayer and fasting are required to gain the victory (Mark 9:29) Persistent prayer is necessary because of Satan’s reluctance to give them up, not because God is unwilling. But Satan truly trembles when he sees the weakest saint upon his knees. We can plead;

The Promises of God

John 3:16

John 3:12

Romans 10:13

John 6:37

The Purpose of God

Jeremiah 1:5 Luke 19:10 II Peter 3:9 Acts 26:18

The Power of God

Hebrews 7:25 Romans 1:16 I Cor 2:4-5 I Peter 1:3-5
James 4:3

I. Prayer For Revival

Revival begins with fervent prayer for the condition of our souls. There is an unveiling of the holiness of God and the heart is gripped with the desperate state of its condition.

Repentance

Demonstration of God's Power

Judgment

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Can any chicken egg turn into a chick? No. It must be fertilized. If it isn't fertilized it will remain an egg. The moment it is fertilized life is conceived inside. On the outside it seems the same but on the inside something is happening. It is the same with us. We can not turn into a child of God until the Holy Spirit has conceived a new spirit within us. That is the Born Again, New Creation, Inner Being we spoke of in the 101 level classes. Now to

win the lost we have to know that they are lost because there is no life in them. They cannot understand spiritual things because the Holy Spirit is not inside them to interpret spiritual things for them. That is why, to them, the things of God seem silly and church seems boring. To win the lost you must open their eyes to the conflict they are in.

You need to know where to start.

- Do they believe there is one God.
- Do they believe the Bible is the revealed will of God and it is accurate in all it says?
- Do they believe in heaven and hell?
- Do they believe they are in conflict with that revealed will?
- Do they believe they need to be born again?
- Are they ready to surrender and be born again?

Now we will approach each of these questions with the answers you should be able to give.

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- Do they believe they need to be born again?
- Are they ready to surrender and be born again? **I.** “But they smoke, drink, take drugs and live promiscuously.” There is a price to pay to gain the lost as one’s inheritance (*Psalm 2:8*).

A. _____ of Scripture.

1. “Love not the world, nor the things in the world” (*I John 2:15*). This does not mean you should not love your fellow man.
2. ”As You did send Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world” (*John*

17:13,14,18)

3. “The field is the world” (*Matthew 13:38*).

II. Getting started in friendship evangelism

- A. Carefully consider how you invest your _____, energy, and financial resources. Do your investments show that you are truly committed to winning the lost? Be honest!
- B. Ask God for a friend, a lost person with whom you can establish a _____.
- C. As you enter appointments and other responsibilities in your daily schedule, plan times of involvement with unbelievers you are targeting for friendship. Remember, you want to establish Christ centered relationships, not immediate converts. Conversion and discipleship are goals. Relationship is the way to enter into the hearts and lives of those you want to reach.
- D. Express true _____. † Be friendly and patient.
† Be committed to discipleship.
† Be loyal to the truth of Scripture
- E. Don't be _____ (tactless). Allow space for a normal growth process.
- F. Be natural in expressing your faith in Christ.
- G. “A friend loves at all times” (Proverbs 17:17) This verse expresses the heart of true friendship - unconditional love.

H. Overcome _____ to friendship evangelism.

1. The fear of _____ .
2. Your acceptance is based on your identity in Christ.
3. Fear of rejection can paralyze you. “What will he or she think of me?”
4. Your ego hates to suffer; it always prefers to be puffed up. Rather than humbling yourself, you prefer silence and exclusion, and many times even isolation.
5. _____ We do not want to spend the time and energy.

III. The church family

While the church upholds the family the family is to uphold the church as the entity the Lord uses to bring his voice into the home.

Preach the Word

You are called to share what you know about Christ with those around you. Since you can only sincerely share that which YOU can validate by scripture then study of the Word becomes extremely important to your ability to be effective in helping others. There is much more to learn so you should develop a regular study habit, but you already know some things that others don't. Look for opportunities to share what you do know while you increase in knowledge.

Be Prepared to use the word to:

1. **Correct** - Bring those who are in error to the truth and don't participate in lies & excuses.
2. **Rebuke** – Discourage those who would harm the faith of others with firm words of correction.
3. **Encourage** – Often we find that courage has given way to despair. We should be ready to use the word to restore and strengthen the courage of others.

A. Keep Your head on straight! Endure hardships

Life comes with many hardships. Christ gives us the strength to choose to live through them victoriously. The Holy Spirit trains us to develop greater endurance.

B. Do the work of an evangelist (win souls!)

The work of an evangelist is bringing people into a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. It is helping them meet the Lord so they to can become Born Again.

C. Discharge all the duties of YOUR ministry

Part of this course will help you identify how you are designed to serve the Body of Christ. Begin to answer God's call to your family, this local church and your community by the following.

- 1. Family** – Begin sharing a quiet time of Bible reading with your family. Pray together. Discuss the word together.
- 2. Church** – Be faithful, support, build & participate.
- 3. Community** – Pray for the areas the Lord places on your heart and obey His leadings. Share the gospel

THIS WEEK'S BIBLE READING: Romans 9-16

Use the Bible Study tool and a Daily Journal as you read. The next session will come from a portion of this book. Return your completed form for credit. You will get much more from the time if you prepare in advance by reading prayerfully through the assignment: