

Title: Soul Winning – A Biblical Strategy

Text: *Luke 10:1-9, After these things the Lord appointed seventy others also, and sent them two by two before His face into every city and place where He Himself was about to go.*

2 Then He said to them, "The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few; therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.

3 "Go your way; behold, I send you out as lambs among wolves.

4 "Carry neither money bag, knapsack, nor sandals; and greet no one along the road.

5 "But whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house.'

6 "And if a son of peace is there, your peace will rest on it; if not, it will return to you.

7 "And remain in the same house, eating and drinking such things as they give, for the laborer is worthy of his wages. Do not go from house to house.

8 "Whatever city you enter, and they receive you, eat such things as are set before you.

9 "And heal the sick there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.'

Introduction: Strategising for soul winning is very important if we are going to see souls saved. Very few churches, evangelists or church-planters have an evangelism strategy for soul winning. Many well-meaning Christians believe if they faithfully and consistently preach the Gospel every day they will get results– but without a strategy the results will be minimal at best.

Others have substituted evangelism tools for a strategy. The “mass” use of tools like tracts and flyers etc. to evangelise is not a strategy. Whereas there is nothing wrong with using tracks and flyers in soul winning, we cannot rely on them completely to do the job effectively.

According to the Oxford Dictionary a tool is a device or implement, especially one held in the hand, used to carry out a particular function. On the other hand, a Strategy is a plan of action designed to achieve a long-term and overall aim or it's the art of planning and directing overall military operations and movements in a war or battle.

We are engaged in a spiritual warfare, engaged in a war for the souls of men and women therefore, our weapons cannot be canal, they cannot be the weapons

of the world. We have to use God's power to destroy and pull down strongholds of human reasoning and arguments according to **2Cor 10:4**.

God Breathed Evangelism Strategy: On two occasions, JESUS THE MASTER EVANGELIST taught His disciples an evangelism strategy. The first is **Matthew 10:1-14**; and **Luke 9:1-6** when He sent out the 12 disciples; the other was when He sent out the 70 in **Luke 10:1-9**. On both occasions Jesus gave an almost identical strategy.

Let us examine these scriptures first:

Luke 10:1-9, After these things the Lord appointed seventy others also, and sent them two by two before His face into every city and place where He Himself was about to go.

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People missed seeing these passages of scripture for what they were or overlook them as culturally irrelevant or out-dated; they only need to be contextualized and adapted to apply to a different time and culture.

WHAT IS THE STRATEGY?

1. After these things the Lord appointed seventy others also, and sent them two by two before His face into every city and place where He Himself was about to go.

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Here we see SIX STEPS into the heart of a community...

STEP 1:

Work In Groups of Two. 1 After these things the Lord appointed seventy others also, and sent them two by two before His face into every city and place where He Himself was about to go.

There are several reasons why Jesus sent them out by two's:

1: Two people can do more than one person can by themselves.

Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their labour. Ecclesiastes 4:9.

2: For Protection and Support. Though one may be overpowered by another, two can withstand him.

And a threefold cord is not quickly broken. Ecclesiastes 4:12.

3: More Power in Prayer.

“Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven.” Matt 18:19.

It helps for one person to pray while the other is ministering.

4: Corporate Anointing –

“For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them.” Matt 18:20.

You tend to learn from each other as you observe each other witnessing. It’s an important part of the discipleship process. When there are two of you, one can deal with any distractions while the other witnesses.

STEP 2:

1. Ask the Lord to release more soul winners.

2. Then He said to them,

“The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few; therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into His harvest.

Here Jesus didn’t instruct us to pray for the harvest; our prayer is for the Lord to send out workers. In this next instruction He didn’t even ask us to pray for a future crop!

3. “Do you not say,

‘There are still four months and then comes the harvest’? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest!” John 4:35.

Understand that the crop is already ripe for the picking- there are fields of them. The problem is finding the workers to bring them in. But as much as we pray for workers we must also realize we are a part of the answer to our prayers. We need to be available.

John 4:36-38 makes several other points worth consideration.

1st: There is a reward for the harvesters!

“And he who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, that he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together” vs36

2nd: The way has been prepared in advance!

“For in this the saying is true; one sows and another reaps.’ I sent you to reap that for which you have not laboured, and you have entered into their labours.”v.37, 38

3rd: The primary objective is to reap. Though both “reapers” and “sowers” are important, the Saviour wants us to keep focused on “bringing in the harvest”
John 4:36, 38

How does God “send”? God does not force us to engage in soul winning or in becoming a witness for Him? Love should be the motivating factor.

John 3:16, For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son.”

Any true motivation must come from love. We need to ask God to put love for the lost in our hearts.

STEP 3:

Trust in God’s Provision.

Go your way; behold, I send you out as lambs among wolves. Carry neither money-bag, knapsack, nor sandals; and greet no one along the road.

Jesus later revoked this instruction in **Luke 22:36** before His ascension.

Then He said to them, “But now, he who has a money bag, let him take it, and likewise a knapsack; and he who has no sword, let him sell his garment and buy one.”

This does not change the fact that we are called to live in faith for Gods provision (*Hab.2:4, Rom 1:17, Gal.3:11, Heb.10:38*). Jesus instructed us to pray

“Give us this day our daily bread” Matthew 6:11.

Trust God for your provision- Apparently Priests on their way to the Temple in Jerusalem were not supposed to carry money or provision’s just in case they were sidetracked from their principle mission. *“...and greet no one along the road”* Jesus is essentially saying, “

Don’t get side tracked worrying about provision, focus on your mission, don’t even greet anyone on the road”

We are not to worry about anything God has already promised to give us in *Matthew 6:33* says,

“But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.” If this is true (and it is), two things that will stop you receiving provision are:

Inaction- not seeking first the Kingdom and, Lack of righteousness- not seeking God’s righteousness

The third is lack of faith:

6 “But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind.

7 For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord;

8 he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.” James 1:6-8

Remember; if its Gods will its Gods bill!!! Don’t let Inaction, lack of righteousness or lack of faith rob you of provision anymore. Trust Him to provide for your every need as you win the lost.

STEP 4:

Find the House of Peace.

“But whatever house you enter, first say, ‘Peace to this house.’

6 And if a son of peace is there, your peace will rest on it; if not, it will return to you.

7 And remain in the same house, eating and drinking such things as they give, for the labourer is worthy of his wages. Do not go from house to house”.

TO BE CONTINUED...

Prayer Points for today:

- Pray and ask Jesus to put love in your heart for lost souls
- Pray to be a soul winner
- Pray for God to bring labourers into His harvest
- Pray for a bountiful harvest

- Now ask the Lord to release His grace upon you
 - Grace to be a faithful and reliable soul winner
 - Grace to be productive in soul winning strategies
 - Grace to maximise your potential
 - Grace to fulfil kingdom assignment

The Holy Communion:

Pray for forgiveness of sins.

I bless the bread and wine and whatever you have. I declare it holy as a symbol of the blood and flesh of Jesus Christ

I pray that as you partake of this communion your eyes will be open to see the harvest all around you

I pray that God will give you love and zeal for the lost

Give Jesus Thanks and Praise!