Lesson 7 - Jesus' Strategy for Reaching the Lost

Review
What were your top takeaways from Lesson #6?

7 Ongoing Elements in a Movement (7 Ways to Raise the Sails for Movement)
1. **Focus on God's Word** (palms up and hands together like a book)
2. **Multiply Extraordinary Prayer** (Cross arms like an X)
3. **Cast Vision** (like you're holding a fishing pole and casting line)
4. **Train Believers to go out among the lost** (like your curling dumbbells)
5. **Go Out Among the lost** (point upward and to the side)
6. **See Groups Start** (hand roll)
7. **Ongoing Coaching** (baseball signals with your hands)

Accountability (may need to be done at the end of the training or via email if time runs out)

- Can anyone remember and share in their own words the passage we applied last week? (Matthew 28:16-20)
- Did you DO what you said you were going to do last week and did you SHARE with the person you said you would share with?
- Did you read Matthew 5-7 & evaluate if you were obeying the commands of Jesus?

DBS - Luke 10:1-16 & Matthew 9:35-10:16

- Split up into 2 groups & have each group take one of the above passages.
- Have someone in each group read the passage out loud.
- Have each person in the group pull out a sheet of paper, write the passage reference at the top, and then draw a line down the center of the paper, creating a column on the left & the right.
- At the top of the left column write, "The type of person Jesus says to look for." Have everyone read through the passage again & write in this column the type of person Jesus says to look for.
- At the top of the right column write, "What the disciples were told to do & not do." Have everyone read through the passage again & write in this column what the disciples were told to do & not to do.

Remind the group not to interpret what the verse says. Have them record the text as simply & accurately as possible.

Examples from **Luke 10** & **Matthew 10**

The type of person Jesus says look for	**What the Disciples were told to DO & NOT DO**
Lk 10:5 - opens his household to you (Greek for household = oikos – circle of influence – family & friends)	Lk 10:1 - goes two by two
Lk 10:6 - receives your peace	Lk 10:1 - goes where Jesus sends (where

	Jesus is coming later)
Lk 10:7 - is hospitable -- feeds & lodges you	Lk 10:2 - prays for more laborers to be sent out into the harvest field
Lk 10:9 - find sick people	Lk 10:3 - like sheep among wolves (goes with danger all around)
Lk 10:16 - listens to you (Kingdom of God); does not reject you (so they are listening to Jesus and not rejecting Jesus)	Lk 10:4 - leaves behind money, baggage, tools
	Lk 10:4 - does not greet anyone on road (stays focused on goal)
	Lk 10:5 - offers peace to a household (family / group)
	Lk 10:6 - if a person of peace is there, peace remains – if not it returns to you.
	Lk 10:7 - Stays there, eats and drinks what is offered
	Lk 10:8 - eats whatever is offered
	Lk 10:9 - heals the sick
	Lk 10:9 - tells the Kingdom of God is near
	Lk 10:10 - if not received, announces warning, then leaves

Mt 10:11 - is a worthy person	Mt 9:38 - pray to Lord for harvest workers
Mt 10:11 - lets you stay in their oikos	Mt 10:1 - given authority over demons and to heal
Mt 10:12 - is a worthy oikos that receives blessing	Mt 10:6 - go only to the Jews not Samaritans
Mt 10:14 - receives you and listens to you (Kingdom of God)	Mt 10:7 - announce the Kingdom of Heaven is near
Mt 10:8 - Again, some would add “look for the sick, lepers, demonized, dead.”	Mt 10:8 - heals the sick, raises the dead, cures lepers, casts out demons
	Mt 10:10 - doesn't take gold, bag, etc.

	Mt 10:11 - looks for/seeks out worthy person
	Mt 10:11 - finds/spends time with someone who welcomes and hosts in household (oikos)
	Mt 10:12 - gives blessing
	Mt 10:13 - let blessing stand or take it back if not received
	Mt 10:14 - if not received, then warns & leaves

Bring the groups back together & have the large group identify common elements from the 2 passages (you can use a whiteboard if you're in person or you can just have them circle the common elements on their piece of paper).

If the participants miss anything from the lists above, ask questions about specific verses so they discover more complete information.

<u>What was Jesus' strategy for going into new places?</u>

- One of his strategies was to find a Person of Peace (POP)
- A Person of Peace is someone who is W.O.O.L.(Y)
    - W.O.O.L.(Y) = Welcoming / Opens Oikos / Listens
    - WELCOMING – often feeds us and wants us to stay in their home
    - OPENS their Oikos (family/group/community/network) to the Good News.
        - This doesn't necessarily mean the disciple-maker gets into the oikos but the person of peace is at least actively sharing the gospel with their oikos.
    - LISTENS to us as we share stories about God.
        - They are also willing to begin obeying, and begin sharing.
        - This is a lost person.

On at least 3 occasions Jesus sent out his disciples in new places with what was essentially the same strategy. They went in pairs to share the gospel with Jews & Gentiles.

- Matthew 10 (v. 1-16) – the 12 were specifically sent out to the Jews
- Luke 9 (v. 1-6 / 51-56) – looks as if the 12 were sent to both Jews and Gentiles.
- Luke 10 (v. 1-16) – Jesus sent over 70 disciples to Jews *and* Gentiles

Do we see this pattern in the Book of Acts?

- Yes! We often read about the apostles & their disciples traveling to new communities in pairs where they often identify a person of peace and stay with them.
- We see this in our generation also! In the 1990's as groups were looking more strategically at reaching the unreached, God directed several different groups in different places around the world to this strategy.

<u>Summary using Luke 10: What were the main things to do in Jesus' Strategy?</u>
Ask questions to help them remember if they miss any of these. You might have a few additions, which is fine if they are using both passages.

1. Selected by Jesus
2. Pray
3. Go together where God sends you (despite danger and without resources)
4. Find a Person of Peace
5. Enter their Oikos
6. If receptive—stay (and eat)
7. Minister to them (heal the sick, cast out demons, etc)
8. Tell about the Kingdom of God
9. If no response, warn them and leave

*** NOTE: Very Important! ***
If you believe you've found a potential "Person of Peace" (PoP) and a household of peace, STAY with them! If you can, actually sleep at their house for several days or more. If not, you still need to drop other involvements and STAY ON THEM intensively trying to meet them every couple of days. Waiting for a week to begin chronological Bible studies will NOT be enough. Be intentional. Be bold.
Stay focused on them. Many workers have been too relaxed only to return later and find their PoP has become closed. Don't wait! Get as much time as you can with the potential PoP and family now!

Show video of POP

https://training-tools.s3.amazonaws.com/Final+POPoptimized.mp4

Discussion

[*Option to break into groups*. Small groups ~4. Break them into small groups for 10-15 minutes and have them discuss the video and WOOLY]

Possible questions for video: What parallels do you see between what the Dr was doing for people's physical health and how we are seeking to live on a spiritual level? What were the barriers to his first efforts? What were the paradigm changes that helped him to find access to people?

Remember: Don't work with "one hand tied behind your back." On one hand we proclaim the Kingdom and on the other we heal the sick and meet other needs. Some groups just talk without serving people while others just meet needs without telling about God. We MUST do both. In many movements, the best way to find Persons of Peace is to meet needs and tell about God as a result.

Question: What kinds of places might you go if you were looking for these Persons of Peace?

- Have someone read Matthew 25:31-46
- Ask: Who are the people Jesus said that we should serve & that when we serve them, we are actually serving him?
- Introduce PIPSY
    - P - Poor (hungry, thirsty, naked)
    - I - International (stranger)
    - P - Prisoner (those in prison)

    - S - Sick (those who are sick)
    - Y - used to make it an adjective so we can talk about PIPSY people
- Talk about how we've found that these places seem to be the most spiritually open/hungry

Challenge This Week

1. Spend time praying each day & asking God to open your eyes to the persons of peace all around you. Try to identify 2-3 potential persons of peace by the next meeting. Do this by living a Shema lifestyle -- serving people & telling them about God. People that respond to this could be your persons of peace.
2. SHARE with someone this week!