



INVEST & INVITE

INTENTIONALLY INVESTING IN OTHERS TO HELP THEM FIND LIFE IN A RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS

What does it mean to INVEST & INVITE?

Jesus wants to be connected with us. He gave His life so we can find life in Him. He is waiting for us to draw near to Him. We want to pursue people with that same passion. We want to be a church that listens to people on the outside. We want to respect people and the process of exploring and taking first steps to connect with Jesus.

We want to be relevant, creative, and intentional about reaching people who aren't being reached. It's not about being weird or acting a certain way. It's about just being yourself & looking for opportunities as we go through life. It's not about making "converts", but it's about sharing God's story, love and message through our words & actions.

We want everyone to experience Jesus and find their best life.

Read the following Bible passages and reflect on how it speaks about Investing and Inviting and how you can take steps in this area:

Matthew 5:13-16, Phillipians 2:12-16, John 17:14-23

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." **Acts 1:8**

STEPS & RESOURCES

INVEST & INVITE

INVEST

Have you felt that God has made a difference in your life? Don't keep it in. Give it away. We're called to share God's love and message with people around us. A way to do that is a process called invest & invite. Invest in people who are disconnected from Jesus to help them experience their best life in a relationship with Jesus. Invite them to church. Follow up with them by asking them what they thought & share what was meaningful to you. We believe God can make all the difference in our lives and we want people to experience a relationship with Him. So don't be weird, just be yourself. Don't be pushy, just share your experience. Respect people and the process. Pray and ask God to help you see opportunities to share his love and message through our words and actions.

BE INTENTIONAL

There are people disconnected from Jesus every where you go. If you are intentional about your relationships, you can build relationships & help people find their best life with Jesus. Being intentional might mean building long-term relationships in order to gain respect and help them open their hearts to Jesus. Here's a few ways to Be Intentional:

- Eat lunch** in the break room or with your co-workers.
- Be a regular** at places in your neighborhood.
- Share a hobby.** Common interest can lead to great conversations.
- Be a front-porch neighbor.** Host a block party or walk around your neighborhood.
- Volunteer locally,** be present & help out at your kids school, or be active at community events.

INVITE

TO CHURCH: Invite someone to join you some Sunday at The Journey. We are designed as a church for people who don't like church. We want you to invite others. Statistics show that 70% of people would be willing to come to church if someone would just ask them. Others show that it takes at least seven invites for someone to show up. Here's a quick idea: Ask someone what they are going to do this weekend. When they ask you say, "I'm going to The Journey. You want to come with me?" If they come, follow up. Take them to lunch after church or ask them what they thought later in the week. Share your thoughts too. Look for opportunities to invite them to explore God more and maybe begin a relationship with Him.

TO A NETWORK: If you know someone who won't come to church, invite them to serve at a project in your Network. That might be a better first step for them and it allows them to meet other Journeyers in a non-threatening environment in their community.

STEPS & RESOURCES

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INVITE CARDS

We have a variety of resources to help you invite people to The Journey. On our series page online you will find an e-invite for our current series. At the Next Steps Center, you will always find business card invites & many times we have postcards for our monthly Sunday series.

SHARE YOUR STORY

How has God changed your life? What does following Jesus mean for your life? How have you experienced God? What are some steps you've taken in your life? Think about it. Write it out. Be prepared to share it.

BRIDGE THE GAP

Below is a picture to help explain what Jesus did on the cross. You can easily draw it on a napkin or whatever and ask people where they see themselves. It's based on "Romans 6:23" - For the wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Memorize it. Share it.



QUESTIONS & REFLECTIONS

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Think about 3-5 people you know that are disconnected from Jesus. Pray for them. Look for opportunities to share your story, or invite them to the Journey.

How has your relationship with Jesus changed your life? How can you share different parts of your story in 2-3 simple sentences?

Read Luke 5. Note how they throw a party to share the hope they found in Jesus. How can you team up with others to invest & invite?

Sometimes you need to meet a physical need in order to earn the opportunity to talk about their spiritual needs. How does that apply to people you are investing in?

How can you invest & invite as a family? How can you set an example or include your kids in the process?

There might be many things or a few things you need to do, but what's your next step?

FOR FURTHER REFLECTION, CHECK OUT THIS BOOK:

- How Good is Good Enough* by Andy Stanley
- A Reason for God* by Tim Keller
- Case for Christ* by Lee Strobel

