

Why We Must Get the Gospel to Every Home (Matthew 9:35-38, CSB)

Rob Patterson, Evangelism Team Leader, KBC

Reality: Many living closest to our churches are still far from God.

On any given Sunday (pre-COVID-19), more than 3.6 million Kentuckians would not have been found *in any kind of church anywhere*. Approximately 81% of Kentucky is unchurched.¹

Response: We must do all we can to get the gospel to every home in close proximity to our church.

To get the gospel to every home we must...

1) Follow the missional model of Jesus.

- a. (v. 35) begins, "Jesus continued going around to all the towns and villages..." Luke 19:10 tells us Jesus came "...to seek and to save the lost."
- b. We see Jesus living out His mission in these verses. He was doing all that could be done to provide as many people as possible living throughout the region opportunities to hear and respond to the gospel.
- c. Are we OK with someone living within a mile or two of our church without ever personally being invited to Christ by a member of our church?

2) Commit to the missional mandate of Jesus.

- a. Jesus called His first disciples by saying, "Follow me and I will make you into fishers of men." (Mark 1:17). What was Jesus doing when He called the disciples? He was traveling throughout Galilee "...proclaiming the good news of God," (Mark 1:14-15).
- b. Jesus' plan for transforming fishers into fishers of men was inviting them to join Him in what He was doing. They are still with Him as He goes town to town.
- c. Just as He commissioned them, He has commissioned us to be His witnesses (Acts 1:8). But maybe you do not feel equipped.
 - i. Will you commit to participate in upcoming evangelism training?
 - ii. Will you take a step to come alongside someone to watch, learn, and go together?

3) Develop a missional mindset like Jesus.

- a. (v. 36) tells us, "When He saw the crowds, He felt compassion for them, because they were distressed and dejected, like sheep without a shepherd."
- b. Are we still moved by the compassion of Christ? Do we see our neighbors as God sees them?
- c. As you drive home today, slow down and consider that as many as eight out of every 10 homes you pass are unchurched. They are "distressed and dejected, like sheep without a shepherd."
- d. They do not know that Christ is what they need, and we will never go to them unless we truly believe Jesus is their only hope.

¹ For stats specific to your county, contact your KBC Regional Consultant.

Next Steps

Therefore, will you join us in:

1) Praying evangelistically?

- a. When we consider the power of the gospel to change a life, a home, or a community, it is hard to understand why the workers are so few. However, (vv. 37-38) confirm this reality. How should we respond? Jesus calls us to pray.
- b. Pray for your "one" (www.whosyourone.com).
- c. Pray for God to help us see our neighbors as He sees them.
- d. Pray for God to send out more workers into the fields. Would you set an alarm at 9:38 each day to remind you?

2) Going proactively?

- a. We will be prayer walking on _____.
- b. We will be packing resources on _____.
- c. We will be going out to share on _____.

3) Meeting needs?

- a. (v. 35) tells us that in addition to preaching and teaching Jesus was "...healing every disease and sickness" among the people.
- b. The principle is that He was compassionately meeting the real needs of real people.
- c. Our neighbors have real needs. How can we meet them in Jesus name? Whether they ever come to our church or not, how can we serve our community in such a way they are glad to have us here?

4) Gospel conversations?

- a. (v. 35) shows Jesus intentionally seeking out the lost wherever they are and compassionately sharing the good news, whether that was teaching in a synagogue, preaching, or meeting needs on the streets.
- b. Will you join us in becoming more intentional about having gospel conversations with our "ones" and anyone we meet?

Invitation

Maybe you did not come looking for Jesus today. Perhaps that was the last thing on your mind as you were scrolling your feed and decided to hang out with us online this morning. But it is important that you know Jesus is pursuing you in His love. You are the reason He came. He wants to heal the brokenness in your life if you will surrender your life to Him.