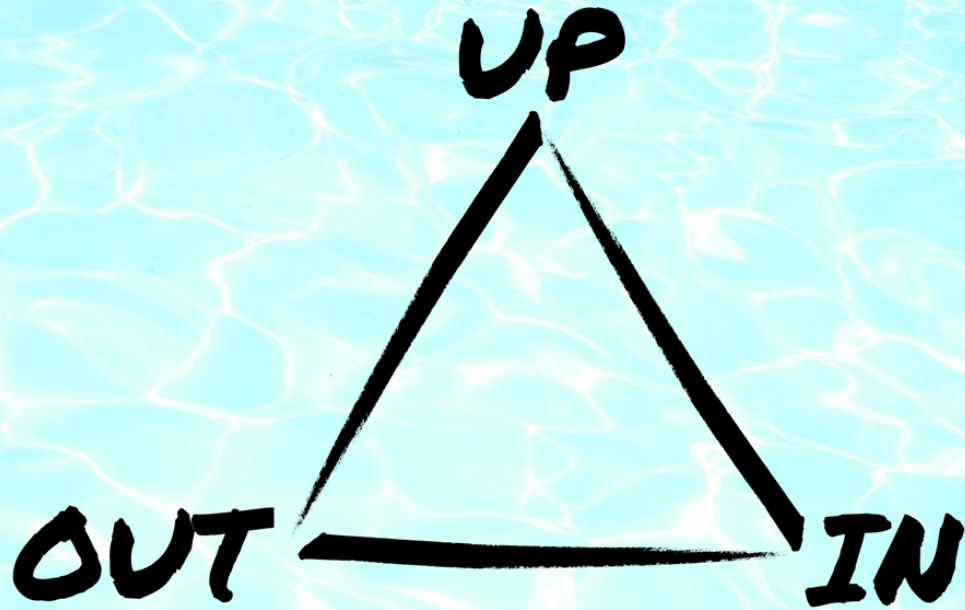


HOW TO HAVE A

GREAT SUMMER





OUT



Jesus' Call to Seize  
the Summer Harvest

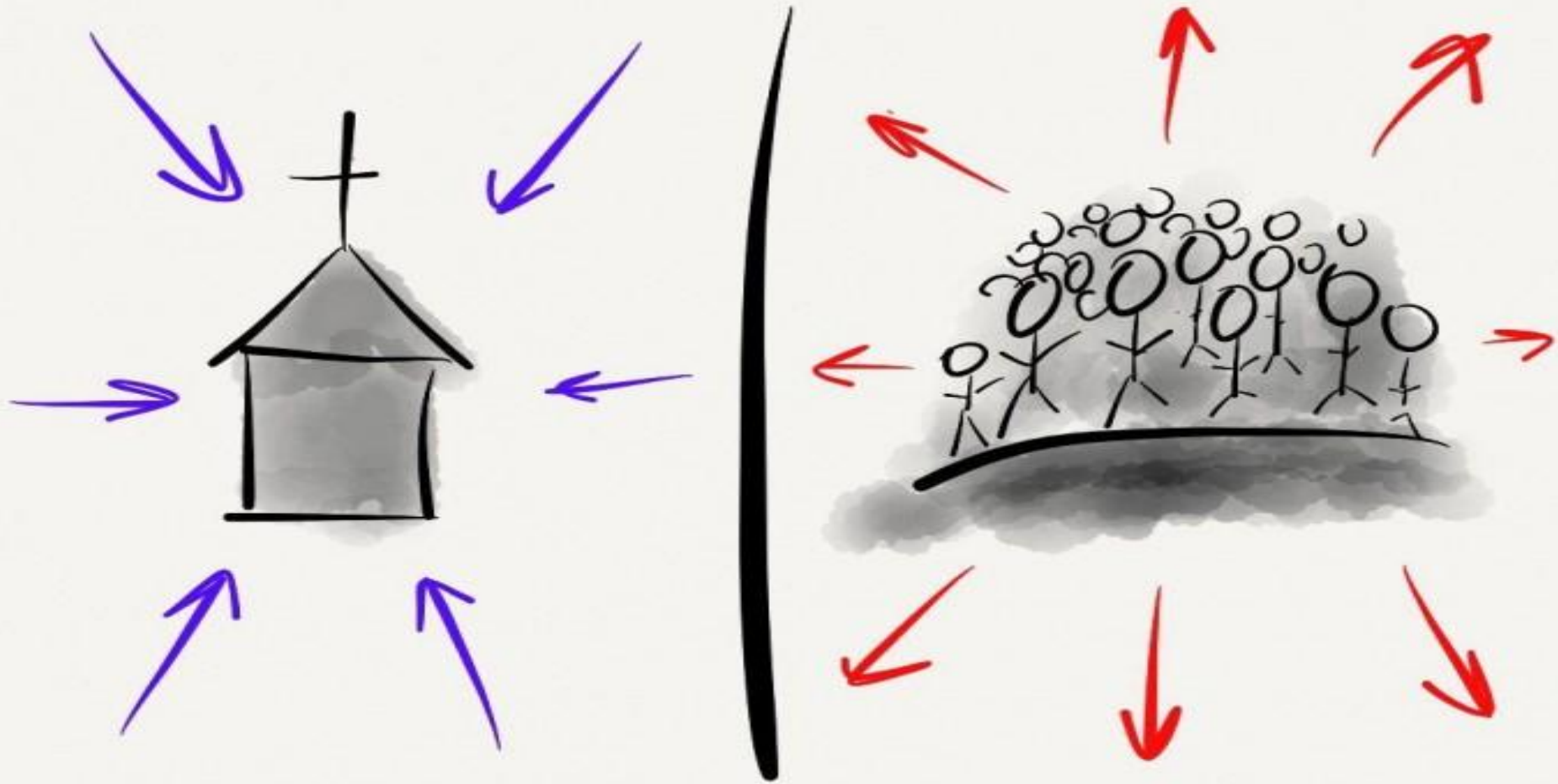
Luke 10:1-12



# 1) We are a Sent People

The Basics





**1) We are a Sent People**

**2) God is already at work in people**

**The Basics**



“My food,” said Jesus, “is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work. Don’t you have a saying, ‘It’s still four months until harvest’? **I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest.** Even now the one who reaps draws a wage and harvests a crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together. Thus the saying ‘One sows and another reaps’ is true. I sent you to reap what you have not worked for. Others have done the hard work, and you have reaped the benefits of their labor.”

John 4:34-38



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- 2) God is already at work in people**

**The Basics**



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John 4:34-38

# 2010 Survey of 550 Albertans

- 81%** acknowledge that they have spiritual needs
- 43%** describe themselves as RELIGIOUS and SPIRITUAL
- 43%** describe themselves as SPIRITUAL but not RELIGIOUS
- 12%** describe themselves as NOT SPIRITUAL and NOT RELIGIOUS

- 1) We are a Sent People**
- 2) God is already at work in people**
- 3) The Mission is Urgent and the Stakes are High**

**The Basics**



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**The Basics**



Jesus said to another, “Follow me.” He said, “Certainly, but first excuse me for a couple of days, please. I have to make arrangements for my father’s funeral.” Jesus refused. “First things first. Your business is life, not death. And life is urgent: Announce God’s kingdom!” Then another said, “I’m ready to follow you, Master, but first excuse me while I get things straightened out at home.” Jesus said, “No procrastination. No backward looks. You can’t put God’s kingdom off till tomorrow. Seize the day.”

**Luke 9:59-62** (Message)

# 1) Start with Prayer

HoW to Seize  
summer harvest





## 3 Ways to Pray for People in Your Harvest Field

- 1) That their heart would be open to Jesus
- 2) That God would send people into their life to represent Jesus.
- 3) That he would show YOU how YOU can represent Jesus to them.

- 1) Start with Prayer**
- 2) Engage with People of Peace**

HoW to Seize  
summer harvest



A Person of Peace...

Is someone who God has prepared ahead of time to hear the message of the gospel through you. They:

- Welcome you into their life
- are open to the Message of Jesus
- serve you even as you serve them

# Engaging People of Peace

- ☐ Identify yourself with Jesus

HoW to Seize  
summer harvest



If you go out representing Jesus (in his name, with his authority) then it's true when he says: "If they welcome you, they welcome me. If they reject you, they reject me." But if you are ashamed of Jesus or the gospel in any way, if we are unwilling to experience the same kind of scorn and opposition that Jesus faced, you won't be able to perceive the Person of Peace, because that person is primed and ready to receive *Jesus*.... And you won't look like Jesus to them. You [have] essentially [gone] out "in your own name," not on behalf of Christ.

Ben Sternke ([www.benstrenke.com](http://www.benstrenke.com))

# Engaging People of Peace

- Identify yourself with Jesus
- Serve...especially through prayer

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summer harvest



# Engaging People of Peace

- Identify yourself with Jesus
- Serve...especially through prayer
- Eat Together

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summer harvest







# Engaging People of Peace

- Identify yourself with Jesus
- Serve...especially through prayer
- Eat Together
- Speak about Jesus

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summer harvest



# Seizing the Summer Harvest

- 1) Can you identify People of Peace...or POTENTIAL people of peace in your life. (family, friendships, neighborhood, workplace)
  
- 2) In the Next 10 weeks, where can you carve regular spaces for:
  - “Harvest prayer”
  - Eating together

# Seizing the Summer Harvest

3) Have you ever identified yourself as a follower of Jesus to those people?

If not...why not

Pray and Be ready.

4) Look for opportunities to serve and pray