

## MAKE HEAVEN CROWDED

### Your Invitation Can Make Heaven Crowded

Pastor Steve Reynolds

C. Invest in your circle of influence.

<sup>7</sup> *“But we were gentle among you, just as a nursing mother cherishes her own children.*

<sup>8</sup> *So, affectionately longing for you, we were well pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God, but also our own lives, because you had become dear to us.”*

I Thessalonians 2:7-8

#### IV. CARE ENOUGH TO EXTEND AN INVITATION TO CHURCH

A. People don't care how much you know until they know how much you care.

<sup>24</sup> *“A man who has friends must himself be friendly...”*

Proverbs 18:24a

B. Ask them to “come and see.”

<sup>46</sup> *“And Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.”*

John 1:46

#### V. REMEMBER AS INVITES GO OUT, GUESTS COME IN

A. If we want a big harvest then we have to plant a lot of seeds.

<sup>6</sup> *“But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.”*

II Corinthians 9:6

B. If we want a big harvest then we have to cultivate the seed.

<sup>6</sup> *“I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase.”*

I Corinthians 3:6

#### Introduction:

A. Will 2025 be a year of just earthly pursuits or a new year of eternal impact? Every person matters to God and every time one sinner is saved there is a party in heaven!

*“I say to you that likewise there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance.”* Luke 15:7

Imagine God using you to lead someone to Christ and causing a party in heaven!!

B. The Make Heaven Crowded Teaching Series will challenge you to grow closer to God and prepare you to share your faith with others. You will discover six simple, but powerful ways you can make an eternal impact with your life.

Jan 5	Your Worship Can Make Heaven Crowded
Jan 12	Your Readiness Can Make Heaven Crowded
Jan 19	Your Story Can Make Heaven Crowded
Jan 26	Your Generosity Can Make Heaven Crowded
TODAY	Your Invitation Can Make Heaven Crowded
Feb 9	Your Vision Can Make Heaven Crowded

C. **TEXT:** John 1:40-49

**YOUR INVITATION CAN MAKE HEAVEN CROWDED**

## HOW YOUR INVITATION CAN MAKE HEAVEN CROWDED

Make Heaven Crowded Principle: Your invitation for people to attend church with you can make heaven crowded.

<sup>46</sup> “And Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.” John 1:46

### I. BELIEVE THAT JESUS CAN SAVE LIVES

A. Jesus changes lives for eternity.

<sup>10</sup> “but has now been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who has abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel,”

II Timothy 1:10

B. Jesus changes lives on earth.

<sup>28</sup> “Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.”

Matthew 11:28

### II. RECOGNIZE THAT GOD WANTS TO USE YOU

A. Followers of Jesus become “fishers of men.”

<sup>17</sup> “Then Jesus said to them, “Follow Me, and I will make you become fishers of men.””

Mark 1:17

B. The number one reason people come to our church for the first time is because you invite them.

<sup>37</sup> “Then He said to His disciples, “The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few.

<sup>38</sup> Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborer into His harvest.””

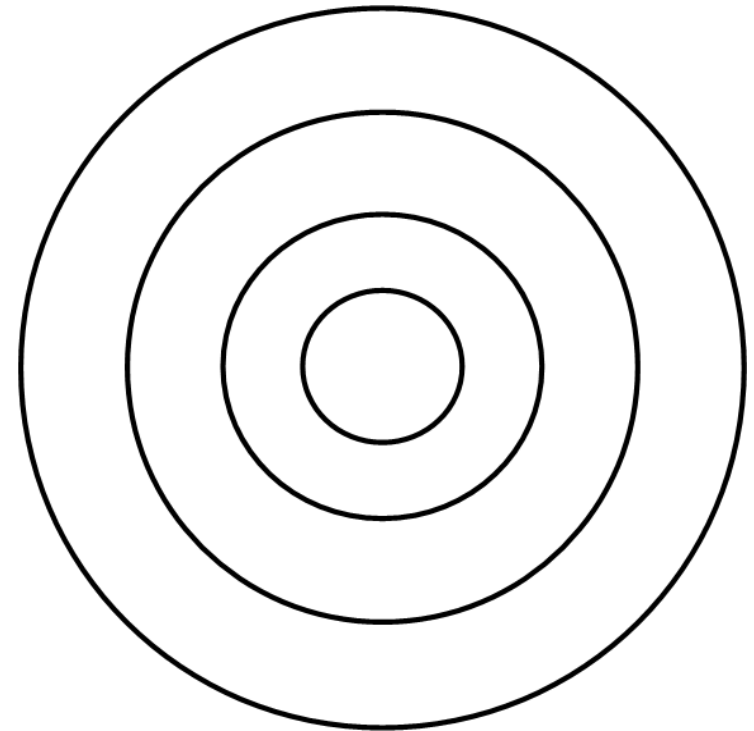
Matthew 9:37-38

### III. IDENTIFY PEOPLE IN YOUR CIRCLE OF INFLUENCE

A. Write down your circle of influence.

<sup>5</sup> “Walk in wisdom toward those who are outside, redeeming the time.”

Colossians 4:5



B. Pray for your circle of influence.

<sup>1</sup> “Brethren, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved.”

Romans 10:1