

Big Church Small Church Podcast

10: Peaceful People

Episode Notes

Thanks for joining the *Big Church Small Church* podcast. In this episode, I discuss who you should reach with the good news. Jesus in Luke 10 tells us to look for peaceful people. These are people who are open to the message of Jesus to a certain extent. They listen to you, and they ask questions about faith.

I. Everyone Is a Witness

Most people in the church are not evangelists. Evangelists have a special gift of communicating the Gospel to unbelievers. They are like salesmen for God. However, everyone is called to be a witness (Acts 1:8). This is the job of every Christian.

What Does a Witness Do?

Witnesses give a firsthand account of what they saw happen. You are a witness of God because you have a relationship with Him. You have a relationship and an experience with Jesus! You are called to share that experience with others so that they too can find a relationship with God and be saved.

II. Peaceful People

Look for people who promote peace. If they don't listen to you, shake the dust off your feet. You can't win people for Jesus whose hearts are hard. Only if the people are willing to listen can you reach them. These are the people you should develop a deeper relationship with and start to disciple.

III. Spiritual Thermometer

A spiritual thermometer will help you quickly decide whether someone is the right temperature (warm heart) to be open to God. Cold people are not interested in what you have to say, giving you the cold shoulder. Hot people just argue. Their heart isn't in the right place yet. You could end up pushing these people further from Christ. Still pray for these people to become warm-hearted.

Warm hearts are peaceful people. It takes just the right temperature for the message of Jesus to grow and be nurtured. From the example of the parable of the sower (Matthew 13:1-23), look for the right conditions for God to grow people as you scatter the seeds (Good News) of Jesus. These warm people have the potential of multiplying 100, 60, or 30 times. These are people you should invest in. Have these people over for dinner and get to know them, or bring them along to an Alpha course. Warm people are gatekeepers to a new social network. They can open doors to groups of people who are unchurched. This multiplies out the message of Jesus.

Discussion Questions

1. What was your last faith-sharing experience like?
2. Think about your friends, work colleagues, and family. Do any of these people fit the description of “peaceful people”?
3. If you discovered a peaceful person, how could you disciple them?

I want to hear from you! Don't forget to email your questions, comments, and testimonies to jonhunter@churchdoctor.org. Check out thesendmovement.com to apply for discipleship training for SEND Young Adults (18-29) or SEND+ (29+) or for coaching opportunities.

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