



# Postmodern Radical

**Ten Ways to  
Make a Difference in  
Your World**

"I don't feel like going to church!"



**"Don't go to church, be the church!"**



# Strategy 1: Pray for Rain



# The Need for the Holy Spirit


"If God were to take the Holy Spirit out of our midst today, about 95% of what we are doing in our churches would go on, and we would not know the difference." (Quoted in David Watson, *I Believe in the Church*, p.166)








# Acts of the Apostles, p. 50



Wherever the need of the Holy Spirit is a matter little thought of, there is seen spiritual drought, spiritual darkness, spiritual declension [deterioration] and death. ...







# Acts of the Apostles, p. 50

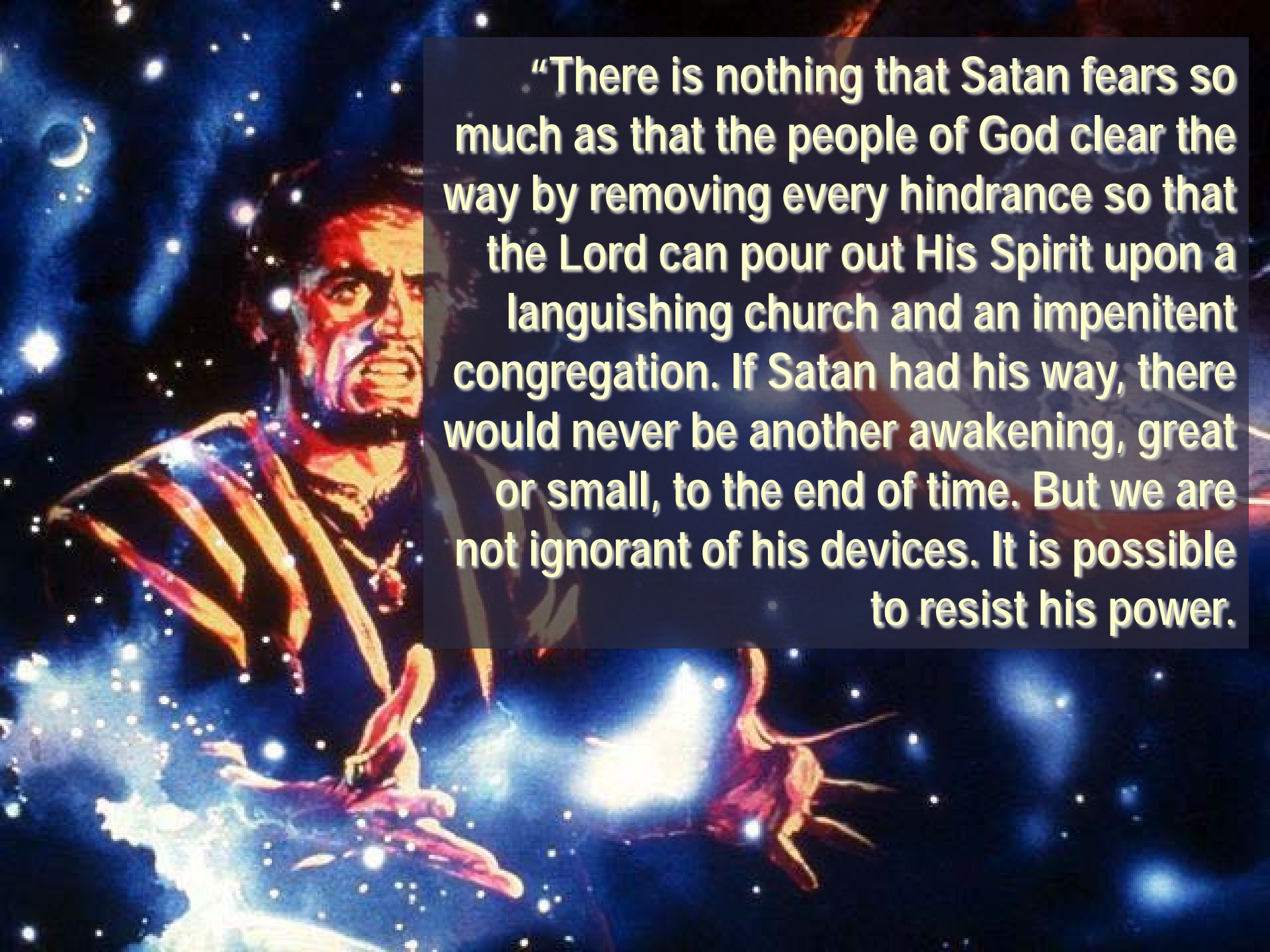
“Since this is the means by which we are to receive power, why do we not hunger and thirst for the gift of the Spirit? Why do we not talk of it, *pray for it*, and preach concerning it?...For the **daily baptism of the Spirit** every worker should offer his petition to God.”



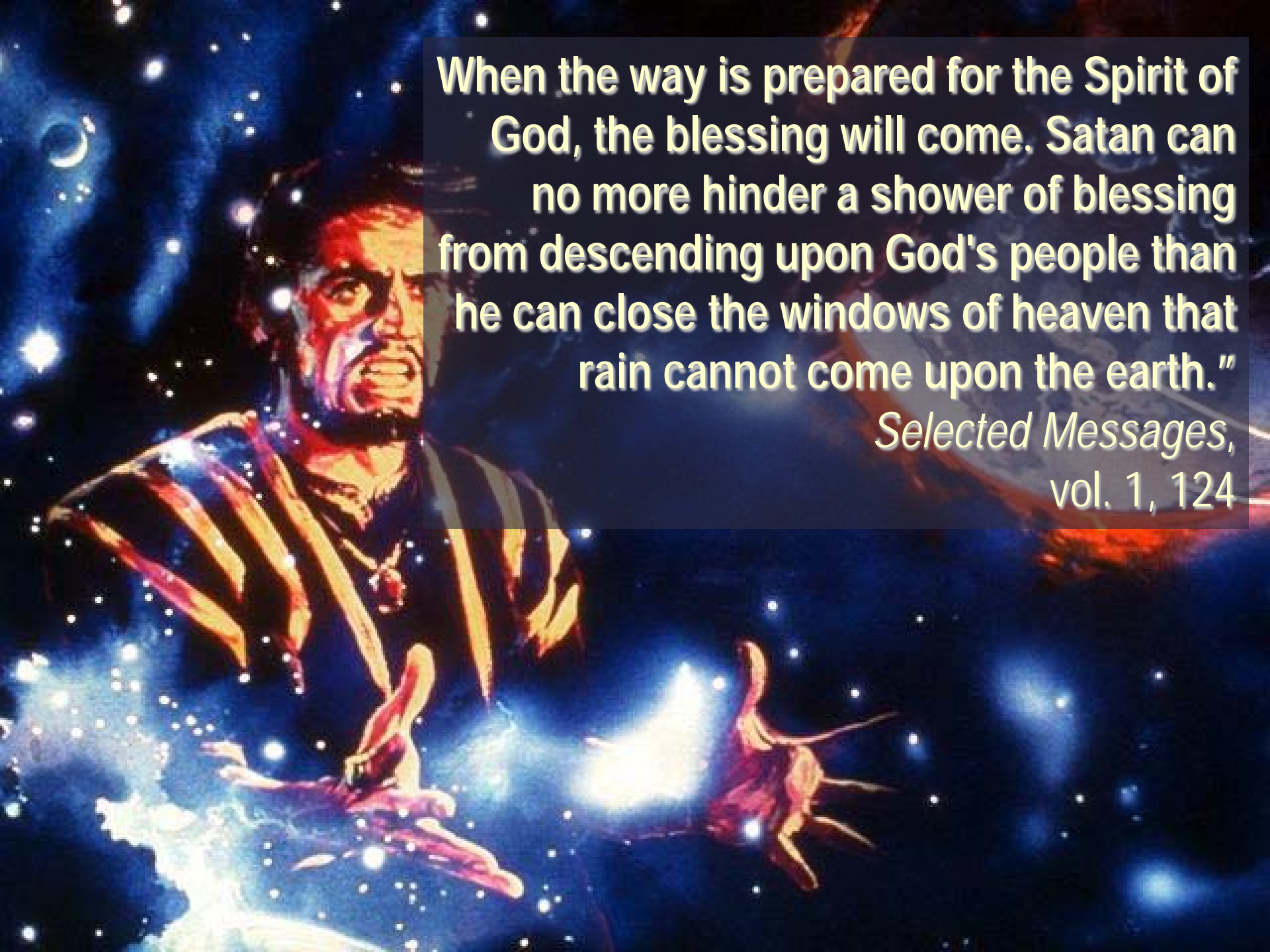
## 2 Chronicles 7:14

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- “If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.”
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**“There is nothing that Satan fears so much as that the people of God clear the way by removing every hindrance so that the Lord can pour out His Spirit upon a languishing church and an impenitent congregation. If Satan had his way, there would never be another awakening, great or small, to the end of time. But we are not ignorant of his devices. It is possible to resist his power.**

A man with a beard and long hair, wearing a dark robe with prominent yellow and red vertical stripes, stands with his arms outstretched. He is set against a vibrant, cosmic background of deep blues, purples, and oranges, filled with numerous bright, out-of-focus stars and nebulae. The lighting on the man is dramatic, with strong highlights on his face and hands, and deep shadows elsewhere.

When the way is prepared for the Spirit of  
God, the blessing will come. Satan can  
no more hinder a shower of blessing  
from descending upon God's people than  
he can close the windows of heaven that  
rain cannot come upon the earth."

*Selected Messages,*  
vol. 1, 124

# Strategy 2: Chalk Revival



# The Power of Reformation

- If you don't let go of the world, you will never have room for God.





# Strategy 3: Deeper Not Faster





# True Bible Study

“But there is but little benefit derived from a hasty reading of the Scriptures. One may read the whole Bible through and yet fail to see its beauty or comprehend its deep and hidden meaning. One passage studied until its significance is clear to the mind and its relation to the plan of salvation is evident, is of more value than the perusal of many chapters with no definite purpose in view and no positive instruction gained.” *Steps to Christ*, p. 90



# SOAP Method

- **S**cripture
- **O**bservation
- **A**pplication
- **P**rayer (and Action)



# Strategy 4: Be a Sheep





# What do sheep do?

- Give food to the hungry
- Take care of strangers
- Give clothes to the naked
- Visit the sick
- Visit the prisoners



# Key Attitude of Sheep: Hospitality



“I was a stranger and you took me in.”





"I was a **STRANGER** and you took me in."

Hospitality suggests a particular concern for those who are not part of our regular group of friends and family



**"I was a stranger and **you took me in.**"**

Hospitality is a welcoming embrace. It gives our time, space and resources in order to meet the needs of others. It is sacrificial yet inviting.





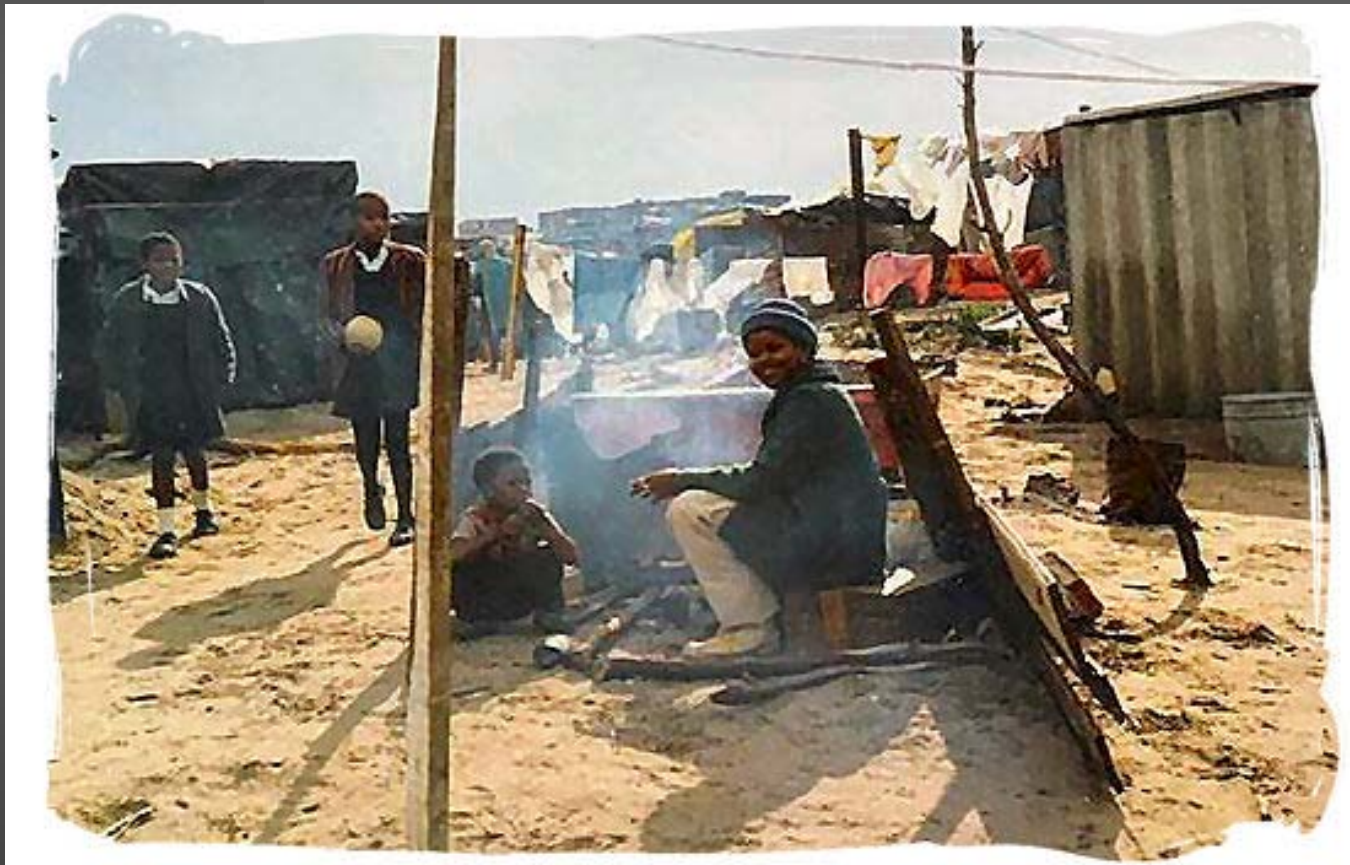
**"I** was a stranger and **you** took me in."

Hospitality receives a blessing from the stranger. It's not a one-way street, since in giving it receives. Hospitality sees the divine hidden in the needy.

# Be a Home to the Homeless



# Squatter Camp, South Africa





# Feeding and Caring





# The poverty of Jesus

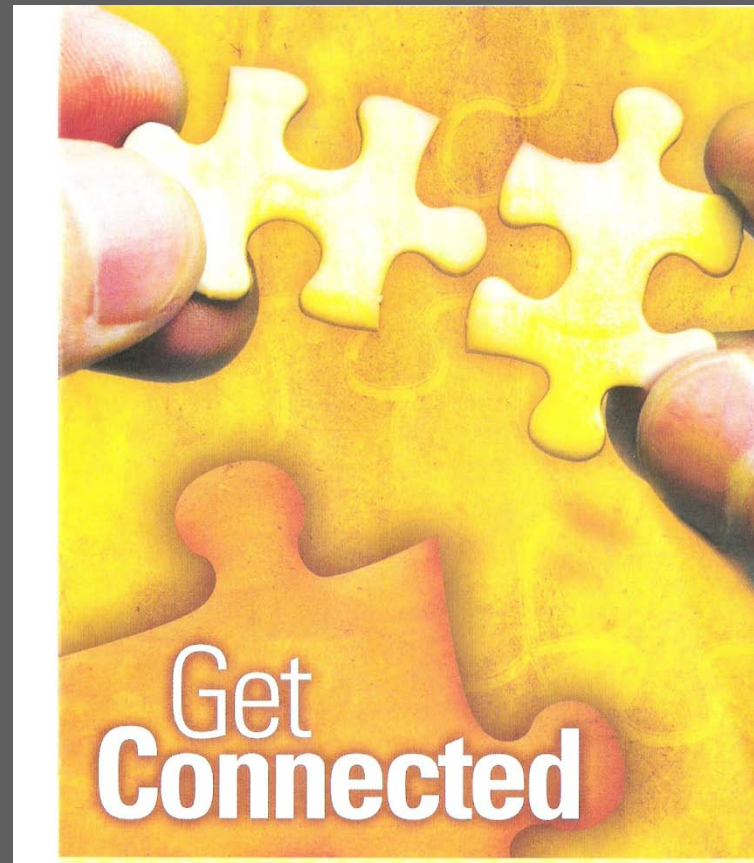
- Jesus was born poor
- Jesus was born into a step-family with issues
- Jesus did not have social status or position
- Jesus walked alone – misunderstood and even betrayed by his friends
- Jesus did not own a home or many material possessions

# Strategy 5: Be A Servant





# Strategy 6: Experience Connection




# The Power of Small Groups





# The Acts 2 Community (v. 42-47)

- Small Groups
  - Food
  - Apostle's Teaching (Bible Study)
  - Fellowship (Koinonia)
  - Caring for each other's needs
  - = Evangelism and Discipleship
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## *God Attachment, p. 126*

“We are wounded in relationships, and we are healed in them, too. We won’t make much progress on our own. We may want to remain isolated so we can read and study on our own, but we won’t take many steps forward that way.”



# The Need to Belong

- “People are looking first for a community to belong to rather than a message to believe in. They are looking for a safe place to work out their sense of identity and self.” Richardson, *Evangelism Outside the Box*, 48.


# Strategy 7: Be Salt







# Christ's Method

- Christ's method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Saviour mingled with men as one who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. Then He bade them, "Follow Me."--The Ministry of Healing, p. 143.
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# Christ's Method

Then Share  
the Word

Make  
Friends

Win  
Confidence



# Don't Be Afraid to Share!

- We have more resources than ever before for giving and sharing Bible studies





# Dialogue not Monologue

- "I have learned (largely from Jesus' own example) that one of the most important skills of spiritual friendship is learning to respond to questions with more questions, so that instead of telling your friend what to think, you help your friend keep thinking. I believe that as long as people keep thinking, they are giving God room to work in their lives." McLaren, *More Ready than you Realize*



# Dialogue not Monologue

- Engage secular people in dialogue. If conscious doubt, not conscious guilt is characteristic of a secular population, authoritative preaching is not the best approach to the unchurched masses. The speakers who get a hearing today engage in animated conversation. The evangelist is primarily listening, probing, sharing answers, and confessing faith, but he is also identifying with the struggler and sharing that he knows how doubt feels." Carlos G. Martin, "Ministry among Secularized Urbanites"





# The Power of a Changed Life

- I've never been able to persuade someone intellectually to abandon the relativistic [postmodern] mindset. That's never the doorway I get someone to walk through. What's more likely to happen is that they'll see the power of a transformed life in another Christ follower and be transformed.
- Quoted in Brett Lawrence, "Starbucks Spirituality," in Carlos G. Martin, *Urban Ministry and Evangelism: A Reader*

# Experiencing Theology

- “Postmoderns are looking for a spiritual involvement that goes beyond entertainment; they are seeking for a spiritual experience that engages all the senses” Goncalves





# The Need to Belong

- The purpose of our evangelism is to bring people into community. If all we do is bring people to a knowledge of salvation and truth but fail to bring them into community, we have failed in our Christian mission. Here again [the apostle] John is in agreement with Jesus and Paul. The church is not a building; it is not a creed – it is a fellowship. Russell Burrill, *The Revolutionized Church of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, 82.



# Strategy 8: Think Orange



**Have you considered  
orange?**





Family + Church = Change



# How to Get Involved at Church



# Strategy 9: Plant a Church





# Strategy 10: Be A Missionary





# The Need for Missionaries

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- “There is need of both home and foreign missionaries. There is work right at hand that is strangely neglected by many.... Every man who has felt the converting power of God becomes in a sense a missionary.” Counsels on Health, p. 33
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# The Influence of a Missionary

■ “Expect great things from God, attempt great things for God!”

