



## A Growing Church

### MAIN THING

We Will Always Grow At The Expense of Satan's Kingdom, Not God's

### SCRIPTURE

Luke 19:1-10, Acts 2:36-38, Acts 2:40-47

### ICEBREAKER

Have you ever lost your wallet or keys? What did it feel like? If you got them back, how did it feel when you got them back?

### OPENING THOUGHT

Someone once said that the church is the only organization on the planet that exists for those outside itself. If the church ever loses its mission to reach the lost, the Christian faith will be gone in a generation. Without conversion growth, churches lapse into "country club" mode, tailoring its mission and ministries to the needs of the people already there rather than those who do not know Christ. Every dead, dying, lukewarm church at one point understood its mission to reach the lost. Yet, as time goes on, it's just easier to turn inward than it is to stay focused on the call to reach the lost for Christ.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. If a friend were to ask you, 'What was one thing your pastor said in his sermon on Sunday?' what would you say?
2. The sermon identified two reasons why the church won't reach the lost: 1) we don't think in terms of lost and saved anymore, and 2) it gets very messy. Which of these, for you, is a bigger issue and the more likely reason you aren't regularly winning people to Christ?
3. The sermon identified five steps to Biblically reach the lost: 1) Repentance, 2) Baptism, 3) Acceptance into the community, 4) Discipleship, 5) Repeat. All five are necessary- you cannot leave so much as one of them out. Which of these is the most common that you see? Which is the rarest? Which is the easiest and which is the hardest?

### LIFE APPLICATION

Every Christian is called to win the lost. If every single Christian made only one convert into a disciple in their lifetime, what would happen to the church? What would the worldwide body of Christ look like if each Christian each won one person to Christ during their lifetimes?

What is the biggest issue stopping you from taking someone through this five-step process of winning a person to Christ and making a disciple?

### CHALLENGE

Our church could double in size in one year if every Christian at Catalyst reached and discipled one person. Begin praying today for the Lord to show you who you need to win to Christ and disciple in the faith.

Or, maybe you are a person who needs to become a Christian. You've never repented, or never been baptized, or never joined the community, never been discipled. What is your next step in this process?

Wherever you are in the process, it's time to take the next step. Do it this week.