

Engage Your World

Pastor Art Hunt

January 19-20, 2013

And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."
Matthew 28:18-20 (English Standard Version)

Principle #1: ASSUME INVOLVEMENT WITH NONBELIEVERS.

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. ²And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."
Luke 15:1-2 (ESV)

Principle #2: STAY PATIENT, BECAUSE SPIRITUAL REBIRTH IS THE RESULT OF A PROCESS.

I have declared to both Jews and Greeks that they must turn to God in repentance and have faith in our Lord Jesus. Acts 20:21 (New International Version)

Principle #3: SEE FEAR, DISCOMFORT, AWKWARDNESS OR EMBARRASSMENT AS CHALLENGES, NOT STOP SIGNS.

See Matthew 28:18; Acts 18:9-10.

Principle #4: BE WISE IN HOW YOU WITNESS.

And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. ⁴Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should. ⁵Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity.
Colossians 4:3-5 (NIV)

“Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves.” Matthew 10:16 (ESV)

Principle #5: LOVE YOUR NONBELIEVING FRIEND, NOT “THE WORLD.”

Don't team up with those who are unbelievers. How can righteousness be a partner with wickedness? How can light live with darkness? 2 Corinthians 6:14 (New Living Translation)

. . . Don't you realize that friendship with the world makes you an enemy of God? . . .
James 4:4 (NLT)

Principle #6: LET GOD'S LOVE MOTIVATE YOU.

So he told them this parable: ⁴“What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? ⁵And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. ⁶And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.’ ⁷Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.”
Luke 15:3-7 (ESV)