HARVEST NORTH AMERICA



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HARVEST NORTH AMERICA

WORKING HAND IN HAND WITH YOU



EQUIPPING YOUR
CHURCH FOR A HARVEST
CHURCH GROWTH PROJECT

Dear Christian Friend,

We at Harvest North America appreciate the opportunity to help facilitate your church as you prepare your church field for a Harvest Church Growth Project. Our continued prayer for you and each church across the USA is that we will truly become "One Nation Under God".

Our Defining Principle:

To do the ministry with excellence in planning, preparing and facilitating local churches so that the greatest harvest possible would be achieved for The Kingdom of God.

Visit us at www.harvestnorthamerica.org

Bible)

- Invite them to join you in Bible Study and Worship
- Equipping them to tell others about their faith
- Give the new believer a Harvest Prayer Card and ask them to list the names of their family and friends who they know are not believers and ask them to begin praying for them.
 - With this you begin to teach them how to pray
- Ask the New Believer to write their story about becoming a Christian.
- Prepare them to share their story of becoming a Christian and prepare them to share the Gospel. After they have prayed for those listed for a period of time ask the new believer to make an appointment with them.
- Go with them on the appointment. Let them tell their story and share the Gospel.

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Introduction

Harvest North America is an evangelistic ministry committed to facilitating Church Growth.

The mission of the organization is to communicate the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the people of the United States of America.

As we begin to work your Church Growth Plan, designed for your Church, HNA will serve as a vehicle to involve your whole church in this endeavor. The atmosphere of working together and having a part in seeing your church grow will be a tremendous blessing to your life and the life of your Church! During this time of the Church Growth Project, we will focus on your unsaved family and friends. Below is a recipe for making this work, let's get started!

Inside your Church your Pastor will build a Church Team! This team will consist of 4-5 people, who will serve to mobilize your church in preparation and implementation of the Harvest Growth Project. To have a successful Harvest Project, the Church Team must lead the church to "Prepare" through prayer for family and friends who do not know Jesus as Lord and Savior and scheduling appointments with those they are praying for.

The Harvest Team will be a Team of trained missionaries who will come and work with your church to go to your unsaved family and friends to share their faith. Sounds a little scary, but with you as a catalyst to make an appointment with

that by it you may grow up in your salvation," 1Peter 2:2

Step 4: Following Jesus in Baptism: "And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased." Matthew 3:17b. Baptism, then, was an example by Jesus Himself. We who experience believers' baptism don't renounce our family, but rather our sin. Not only is baptism a renunciation, but it is also an affirmation. We affirm our need and acceptance for Jesus as our Savior and His grace in redeeming us.

Step 5: Finding Your Place: "And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds." "Let us not give up meeting together,..." Hebrews 10: 24-25 Your new life puts you in a right relationship with God and links you up with other believers. You will need to find where you fit into the body of Jesus in order to be obedient to Him and to enjoy the support and encouragement of a local Church that can help you grow, as well as appreciate your gifts.

As you begin to look at how you can be most effective in follow up, look at these few guidelines;

- Keep a log of the new believers and those who show an interest (Name, address and phone number)
- Have a "Discipleship Team" of 5 or more members from your Church in place
- Assign each "Discipleship Team" member a number of new believers and others who show an interest in the Gospel.
- Mentors need to use a follow up process that will present to the new believer the following kinds of instruction;
- Encourage the New Believer to;
 - Fellowship with other Believers
- Instruct them in Following Jesus in Baptism
- Prayer is a priority
- Discovering God's Word (Make sure they have a

Follow-up is our stewardship of God's harvest. We need a process in place so that not one person falls through the cracks. After we have prayed, after we have witnessed and we have new believers in our church we need to follow-up! Don't give up on that person who says not this time, with a little encouragement, they just might step over into the new believer's arena! And our follow-up begins.....

Step 1. Trust Jesus: Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, he who believes has everlasting life." John 6:47

When you prayed to receive Jesus into your heart; you believed or trusted in Him. In the Bible Jesus said that you have everlasting life because of your belief. Jesus entered your heart and life the moment you invited Him in. Everlasting life began the moment you believed and will never end. The Bible also says that once we open our hearts to Jesus we become children of God, "Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God…" John 1:12

Step 2: Prayer is a Priority: <u>"pray continually;"</u> <u>"give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."</u>

1 Thessalonians 5:17-18 *Prayer* is an important part of our knowing God and following Him. Through prayer we not only speak to God, but we hear from Him as well. As a new believer, it is very important that we spend time with God and come to know Him in an intimate way.

Step 3: Your Need for God's Word: "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness," 2 Timothy 3:16 God speaks to us through the Bible, His Word. In it, you can learn what pleases and displeases God. You will also uncover a rich source of inspiration, comfort, strength and hope. God's word has the power to change your life if you will spend time there. "Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so

your family and friends, the Gospel goes out! Results we've seen; 75% of the appointments you make will happen and over 50% of those who have heard the Gospel, have received Jesus as Lord and Savior. Of course we know that the harvest belongs to the Father, so we are 100% obedient because we shared the Good News of the Gospel!

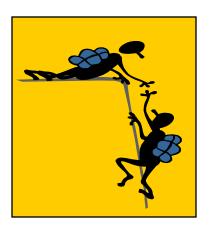
A Church Growth Project

A Church Growth Project is born out of a Church Growth Plan that your Pastor and Harvest North America have worked together to develop. It is a focused time of intentional evangelism reaching your family and friends with the Gospel. This is accomplished by trained teams of missionaries who will come and work with your Church to assist you with your Church Growth Plan.

What is the Harvest Process?

- List names of unsaved family members and friends on your Harvest Card
- Commit to pray for them daily
- Schedule an appointment with them for a visit during the Harvest Project
- Visit them with a Harvest Team Member to Share the Gospel
- Commit to nurture and support them in their growth as a believer and continue to love and support those who do not respond right away

Follow-Up

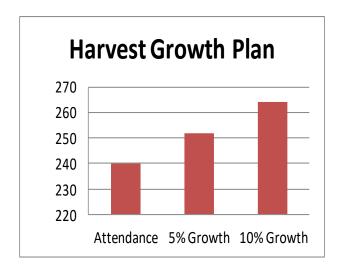




Snapshot of a Church Growth Plan

"and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Matthew 28:20



"He told them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into His harvest field."

Luke 10:2

tween Jew and Gentile-- the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." (Romans 10:12-13)

5. Are you willing to call on Jesus and confess Him as your personal Savior, as your Messiah? Yes___No___

If you believe the above verses and want to follow Jesus, the prayer below, prayed from your heart, will help you begin a new life. Would you now pray this prayer or a prayer in your own words and claim the abundant and eternal life that Jesus the Messiah can give you.

"Dear Jesus, I open my heart and life to you as my Savior. I believe you died for me, to take my sins away, and rose from the dead, you are alive today and I want you to live in my heart. Thank you for dying for my sins and for offering me eternal life. I now confess you as the Messiah, my Savior. Thank you for coming into my life Lord Jesus. Thank you for taking my sins away. Take control of my life and help me live for you. Thank you for giving me eternal life.

In your name Jesus I pray Amen!"

6. Our sin of unbelief, that Jesus is the Messiah, was a roadblock between us and God. When Jesus the Messiah died it was to pay the sin debt for all people of all the world. Now that you have believed in Jesus as the Messiah and invited Him into your life, you are a child of God in right relationship with God. Jesus has taken your sins away. Please read (John 1:12,29)

- Record personal information (name, address, phone # and decision)
- If they have questions you cannot answer:
- It's okay to say "I don't know, but I will try to find the answer to that and follow-up with you on this"
- Use this as a springboard to have a future visit
- Schedule a time for a follow up visit (to answer more questions, give further witness or to begin discipleship).

Making the Visits

Sharing your faith with your family and friends, many times, is a lot more difficult than with someone that's not in your circle! With our "Team" effort we become a catalyst for each other! Because of your relationship with this person we have an opportunity to have a visit. Your visiting partner will share, his/her story and the Gospel, during the visit, the inhibitions that keep us from sharing with our family and friends are nonexistent. Here are a few guidelines for the home visits;

- Be on time
- Begin with a brief introduction of your visiting partner
- Your partner will thank them for allowing you both to come to their home (or for the opportunity to meet for a visit)
 - This will allow you to go right into the reason for the visit
- Your partner will share his/her story briefly (lifting up Jesus)
- Share the Gospel. Go through the questions and scriptures in the witnessing brochure, giving them an opportunity to make a decision. Using the witness brochure will allow you to point the person to Jesus Christ through the scriptures (Always read the scriptures as you go through the presentation). The inside of the HNA brochure looks like this;
- 1. Jesus is about God's love. (John 3:16-17)
- 2. Jesus is the Son of God, the Messiah. (John 1:40-41, 20:31)
- 3. Why do we need a Savior? (Romans 3:23) (Romans 6:23)
- 4. Jesus died for your sins and rose from the dead. (John 1:29)(Matthew 27:35, 28:5-7)

Jesus answered "I am the way, the truth and the life. no one comes to the Father except through me." (John 14:6) "That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved." "For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved." (Romans 10:9-10) "For there is no difference be-

Making the Appointments



Making The Appointments

Why do we need to do evangelism?

In God's word we are told that everyone who does not know Jesus as their personal Savior is separated from God. John 3:18 "he who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God." This means this very day our family and friends who don't know Jesus as their personal Lord and Savior live under God's condemnation. You and I have access to the greatest gift of all, the "Good News of Jesus"; we need to offer that gift to the people we know and love, the gift of life eternal. We hold that precious gift in our hearts and hands, what will we do with it?

Jesus says in John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life."

Who needs Jesus?

Let's bring that down to where we live, who do you know that needs Jesus, Our parents, our brothers or sisters, our children, our best friend, the person we work with? We all know someone who needs Jesus and most of the time it's someone we would do anything in the world for. Well, let's begin by giving them life eternal through the gift of Jesus Christ our Lord. When Andrew met the Messiah, the very first thing he did was go and get his brother, Peter, (John 1:41) evangelism at its best, wow! We never know how God will use our obedience in His kingdom building but we do know

Making the Visit



"How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?" "And how can they preach unless they are sent?

As it is written,

"How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

Romans 10:14-15

that through our obedience, we have the opportunity to see our family and friends come to Christ. Andrew had no idea, at that moment that God had a plan for Peter; he just knew he wanted his brother to meet the Christ.

How do we get audience with our friends and family?

We pray for our family and friends daily, commit to pray for them daily and then we go after them just like Andrew did. We ask God to go before us and at a given time, we call them and ask them would it be okay if we came by with a friend that has a wonderful story about how they accepted Christ (Always be honest and upfront with them, that way the enemy has no place from the beginning). We tell them it would be a blessing to me if they could hear this story and we will only be there 30-45 minutes, just enough time for a cup of coffee! (Remember this is your family member or friend, your relationship). Be sensitive in scheduling, it could be your place, their place or a neutral place. Remember scheduling during the Harvest Project is our optimal goal, but if that time doesn't work schedule whenever! When you talk to your family or friends, give them a few scheduling options over 2 or 3 days. (Example; Would Thursday at 6:00 PM, Friday at 2:00 PM or Saturday at noon be good for you?)

Will it be difficult?

Yes, evangelism is always difficult; we have an enemy who would completely shut us down with fear. So we know his tactic, we understand his tactic and we go to battle equipped, we

the Father to give us the spirit of power. Through you, we have the opportunity to take the gift of life to your friends and family!

2 Timothy 1:7 says "For God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of a self discipline.

Should I do this alone?

No, don't do this alone! Have a corporate time or several times of coming together, bring your cell phones, have prayer together and then make your calls. Jesus sent his disciples out two by two, so they could draw strength from each other. That's what will happen when we come together. And then Jesus sent them to the places where He would be going, remember you have been praying for your family members and friends asking God to go before you and now you can give them an opportunity to hear someone's story that just might change their life!

Joshua 1:5b ".....as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will never leave you nor forsake you."

Victory in Jesus!

Celebrate Jesus Celebrate! Have a festive atmosphere and refreshments. Celebrate the appointments that were made, the calls that were made, the obedience step that each person took by showing up to make calls to schedule a visit with their family and friends who need Christ...

1 Samuel 15:22 ".... to obey is better than sacrifice ...".

More Tips on Making Appointments.....

After you have prayed for those listed on your Harvest card it is now time to get involved in the harvest of the souls. Making the appointment now becomes the vital link to your being able to tell your friends and family about Jesus.

When you make the appointment, <u>remember</u> you are making it with your friends and or family. So, talk to the person the way you normally would. If you happen to be making an appointment with a new friend or an acquaintance you still need to be yourself but maybe not quite so casual. You can adjust as you think necessary.

- Be sure to have your calendar before you so you can schedule the appointment.
- Always be upfront and honest. Be brief and to the point.
- After making the appointment, if they are married, be sure to invite their husband or wife to join the visit.

Appointment Script

Hey man! This is Doyle. How are you? Got a few minutes to visit? There is going to be a campaign in our area, the campaign is called "The Harvest Project". During the campaign we will have several visiting friends who are coming to tell their story about Jesus Christ in their life. Just like you and me they all have different stories to tell with the common difference maker, their relationship with Jesus. I am calling you because of our relationship and would like to ask you, if, during the time our visitors are here, if there would be a time that we could have a cup of coffee and spend an hour or so with you. I want you to hear one of these life changing stories. We could meet at your house or we can meet at mine. Would Thursday morning or Friday afternoon, be better for you? Great!