

Part 6: True Colors Grant Fishbook, Teaching Pastor March 14 & 15, 2015

Bringing People to Jesus

Great crowds came to him, bringing the lame, the blind, the crippled, the mute and many others, and laid them at his feet; and he healed them.

- Matthew 15:30

Some men came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them.

- Mark 2:3

People were bringing little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples rebuked them. - Mark 10:13

The True Colors of Bringing and Including

- Those who did the bringing had a <u>relationship</u> with and <u>responsibility</u> for the ones they brought.
- The <u>church building</u> is simply a tool for <u>The Church</u> to use as a gathering point.
- Inviting is beneficial; bringing is optimal.

A Beautiful Example of Bringing and Including: Barnabas

News of this reached the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. When he arrived and saw what the grace of God had done, he was glad and encouraged them all to remain true to the Lord with all their hearts. He was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith, and a great number of people were brought to the Lord. – Acts 11:22-24

Prime Moments to Bring and Include:

When you hear...

- · I'm in crisis
- I have a question
- I'm in transition
- · I don't know what to do
- · God speaking, you are responsible to act!

Skinning the Chameleon of Insecurity and Fear

Am I now trying to win the approval of human beings, or of God? Or am I trying to please people? If I were still trying to please people, I would not be a servant of Christ. - Galatians 1:10

"Whoever acknowledges me before others, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven. But whoever disowns me before others. I will disown before my Father in heaven." - Matthew 10:32-33

The fear of man lays a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord is safe.

Proverbs 29:25

So we can confidently say, "The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?" - Hebrews 13:6

> When I bring people to Jesus, I am trusting that God will deliver them and protect me.

> But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ. - Ephesians 2:13

Next Steps

This weekend Easter invitations are available in the Commons. While inviting is beneficial, bringing is optimal. Pray and think about who you could bring with you to an Easter service and pick up an invitation for each person God brings to mind. Make sure you give the invitation personally, and offer to pick up or meet that person at CTK on Easter weekend.

Small Group Questions

- 1) What are your plans for Easter?
- 2) Who brought you to church for the first time? What do you remember of the experience?
- 3) Have you ever taken the risk of "bringing and including"? How has bringing people to Jesus enriched your own spiritual walk?
- 4) Fear is a great motivator to do nothing! Read the scriptures aloud from the related section above and then discuss (in a group) or journal (if you are alone) the implications of these scriptures.
- 5) Who are you bringing to Easter?
- 6) What do you need prayer for today?



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