**Prayer and Evangelism**

Whatsoever you sow you will reap = you will reap the exact product of the seed you sowed

Sow sparingly and you will reap sparingly – sow bountifully and you will reap bountifully = this principle applies to nearly all we do

PRAY DAILY FOR THE PEOPLE YOU ARE INFLUENCING

i.e. Abe needs to pray for the NLM leaders + 10 new PS

Abe needs to pray for the new church planters by name

KEY Bible verses on prayer ------------------------------------------------

**NEW SESSION Concert of Prayer**

Hospitality is spiritual warfare

Put the big rocks first in your buckets

Change almost always creates pain

**Abe has 4 little songs from childhood that he uses nearly daily to strengthen himself, enjoy God, and glorify HIM –** one about God the Creator – one about Christ’s sacrifice on the cross – one about Jesus’ Ascension – one is about dependence on the Holy Spirit

Weekly accountability

**1. Heaven is a very real place where very real people will live with great joy forever because they have heard and accepted the Gospel.**

**Philippians 3:20-21**

For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. Who will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory.

**1 Corinthians 2:9**

But just as it is written, “Things which eye has not seen and ear has not heard, and which have not entered the heart of man, all that God has prepared for those who love Him.”

**Revelation 21:4**

“And He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away.”

**2. Hell is a very real place where very real people will live in great torment forever because they have not accepted the Gospel.**

**Revelation 20:15**

And if anyone’s name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

**Matthew 25:41**

“Then He will also say to those on His left, ‘Depart from Me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels.’

**3. In the same way that Jesus left heaven to seek us, He expects that we will do the same; that is, seek others for Him.**

**John 17:18**

“As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world.”

**John 20:21**

So Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you; as the Father has sent Me, I also send you.”

**2 Corinthians 5:18-20**

Now all these things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation, Namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

**4. Personal evangelism is a responsibility given to us by Jesus.**

**Acts 1:8**

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses “both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.”

**5. Personal evangelism is not hard, but it does require that we take initiative; that we obey His commissioning.**

**John 4:35**

“Do you not say, ‘There are yet four months, and then comes the harvest’? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look on the fields, that they are white for harvest.”

**6. Most Christians who are headed to heaven rarely choose to do something that would influence a lost person to accept Jesus as their Savior.**

**7. The reason is that we are self-absorbed, apathetic, and irresponsible.**

**2 Timothy 2:4**

No soldier in active service entangles himself in the affairs of everyday life, so that he may please the one who enlisted him as a soldier.

**8. Each of us must take the initiative and act in obedience to our calling. Don’t just stand there, do something.**

**9. A daily committing of our life to God to be a witness for Him and asking for help, is a good way to start out each day.**

**Luke 9:23**

And He was saying to them all, “If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me.”

**Romans 12:1**

Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.

**10. Successful people have learned that a strategy is a major help in accomplishing things that are important but difficult, especially if you are working at it as a team.**

**11. First and most important step in the strategy is to identify lost people you know and**

**write their names down and pray for them every day. “Seven for Heaven.”**

**12. God knew we would be weak when it came to doing our job so He gave us help, the third person of the Trinity, the Holy Spirit.**

**Acts 1:8**

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.”

**13. The Holy Spirit will give us courage.**

**Acts 4:31**

And when they had prayed, the place where they had gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak the word of God with boldness.

**14. The Holy Spirit will give us wisdom to say just the right thing at just the right time, not too much or not too little.**

**Mark 13:11**

“When they arrest you and hand you over, do not worry beforehand about what you are to say, but say whatever is given you in that hour; for it is not you who speak, but it is

the Holy Spirit.”

**Exodus 4:10-12**

Then Moses said to the Lord, “Please, Lord, I have never been eloquent, neither recently nor in time past, nor since You have spoken to Your servant; for I am slow of speech and slow of tongue.”

**Exodus 4:10-12**

The Lord said to him, “Who has made man’s mouth? Or who makes him mute or deaf,

or seeing or blind? Is it not I, the Lord? “Now then go, and I, even I, will be with your mouth, and teach you what you are to say.”

**Jeremiah 1:6-9**

Then I said, “Alas, Lord God! Behold, I do not know how to speak, because I am a youth.”

But the Lord said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am a youth,’ because everywhere I send you, you shall go, and all that I command you, you shall speak. “Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you,” declares the Lord. Then the Lord stretched out His hand and touched my mouth, And the Lord said to me, “Behold, I have put My words in your mouth.”

**Ephesians 6:19**

And pray on my behalf, that utterance may be given to me in the opening of my mouth, to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel.

**15. The Holy Spirit will arrange divine appointments.**

**Colossians 4:5**

Conduct yourselves with wisdom toward outsiders, making the most of the opportunity.

**16. The Holy Spirit will prompt us and guide us to those appointments.**

**Acts 8:28-29**

And he was returning and sitting in his chariot, and was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go up and join this chariot.”

**Acts 13:2-4**

While they were ministering to the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.” Then, when they had fasted and prayed and laid their hands on them, they sent them away. So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia and from there they sailed to Cyprus.

**17. The Holy Spirit will work in the life of lost people, drawing them, convicting them, and enlightening them.**

**John 16:7-8**

“But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you. “And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment.”

**18. One little bitty step of obedience in the direction of choosing to be a witness results in power amplified from the Holy Spirit.**

**Acts 1:8**

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.”

**19. The devil is a very real and powerful being.**

**John 8:44**

“You are of your father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature, for he is a liar

and the father of lies.

**20. The devil hates the Lord and will do everything in his power to keep people from believing and trusting in Him.**

**Matthew 13:19**

“When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it,

the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is the one on whom seed was sown beside the road.”

**2 Timothy 2:26**

That they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, having been held captive by him to do his will.

**2 Corinthians 4:4**

In whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving, that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

**Ephesians 6:11-12**

Put on the full armor of God, that you may be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers,

**Ephesians 6:11-12**

against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces

of wickedness in the heavenly places.

**Revelation 20:7-10**

When the thousand years are completed, satan will be released from his prison, and will come out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, God and Magog, to gather them together for the war; the number of them is like the sand of the seashore. And they came up on the broad plain of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city, and fire came down from heaven and devoured them.

And the devil who deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are also; and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

**21. The devil controls much of the world and works at creating a very hostile culture to the Gospel.**

**Luke 4:5-6**

And he led Him up and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. And the devil said to Him, “I will give You all this domain and its glory; for it has been handed over to me, and I give it to whomever I wish.

**2 Corinthians 11:13-15**

For such men are false apostles, deceitful workers, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ. No wonder, for even satan disguises himself as an angel of light. Therefore it is not surprising if his servants also disguise themselves as servants of righteousness, whose end will be according to their deeds.

**22. The devil controls much of the world and works hard at creating a world view or theology that makes the Gospel seem foolish.**

**1 Corinthians 1:18**

For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

**Revelation 12:9**

And the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of old who is called the devil and satan, who deceives the whole world; he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.

**1 Timothy 4:1**

But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons.

**23. The devil knows that lost people must hear the Gospel from a believer to be saved so he works on us so that we don’t witness.**

**Matthew 9:37**

Then He said to His disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few.

**24. The prayers of the saints are what prompts God to restrict the work of the evil one.**

**Psalm 35:1**

Contend, O Lord, with those who contend with me; fight against those who fight against me.

**25. God’s children don’t pray much because of busyness, lack of faith, timidity, and lack of compassion.**

**1 Peter 4:7**

The end of all things is near; therefore, be of sound judgment and sober spirit for the purpose of prayer.

**Colossians 4:2**

Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with an attitude of thanksgiving.

**1 Thessalonians 5:17**

Pray without ceasing.

**Ephesians 6:16-18**

In addition to all, taking up the shield of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints.

**26. The Second Step in the strategy of influencing lost people towards Jesus is to work hard at becoming their friend.**

**27. The longer a person is a Christian the less effective they are as a witness because they don’t have very many lost friends.**

**28. The Gospel travels best and most naturally between friends.**

**Matthew 11:19**

The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Behold, a gluttonous man and

a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’

**Acts 11:14**

And he will speak words to you by which you will be saved, you and all your household. oikos

**Acts 16:31**

They said, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.”

**Acts 18:8**

Crispus, the leader of the synagogue, believed in the Lord with all his household, and many of the Corinthians when they heard were believing and being baptized.

**29. A friend is someone we do things with socially, and that we enjoy.**

**30. You are not going to win everybody in the world to Jesus, and you aren’t going to be friends with everyone, but at least do something.**

**31. Developing friendships with lost people requires purpose and effort.**

**32. Our divine, built-in fish locater is to discover those people who we “click” with.**

**33. The principle of “close proximity” says that even the most “Christ-like” Christian on the planet will be totally ineffective unless they get near people who are living far from God.**

**34. As we purposefully hang out with lost people, our kindness, gracious speech, patience, and self- control will increase our influencing power.**

**1 Corinthians 13:4-5**

Love is patient, love is kind and is not jealous; love does not brag and is not arrogant, does not act unbecomingly; It does not seek its own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong suffered.

**35. Happy people are very attractive, and people want what they have.**

**Philippians 4:4**

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!

**36. Grumbling is a habit that many have, and it will effectively negate any positive influence you might have with a lost person.**

**Philippians 2:14-15**

Do all things without grumbling or disputing; so that you will prove yourselves to be blameless and innocent, children of God above reproach in the midst of a crooked and

perverse generation, among whom you appear as lights in the world.

**37. Slandering and gossiping about other people reduces our influence to near zero.**

**38. As we faithfully pray for our “Seven for Heaven” it is important that we constantly ask God for help to be an attractive person to our lost friends.**

**39. The Third Step in our strategy to draw people to Jesus in little, itty, bitty steps is to meet a need in their life. Do a good deed.**

**40. Pro-actively and thoughtfully doing good deeds for those on our “Seven for Heaven” list is a key part of our strategy of winning people to Christ.**

**Titus 2:6-8**

In all things show yourself to be an example of good deeds, with purity in doctrine,

dignified, sound in speech which is beyond reproach, in order that the opponent may be put to shame, having nothing bad to say about us.

**Titus 2:13-15**

Looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus; Who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds.

**Titus 3:1-2**

Remind them to be subject to rulers, to authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good deed, to malign no one, to be uncontentious, gentle, showing every consideration for all men.

**Titus 3:8**

This is a trustworthy statement; and concerning these things I want you to speak confidently, So that those who have believed God may be careful to engage in good deeds. These things are good and profitable for men.

**Titus 3:14**

And let our people also learn to engage in good deeds to meet pressing needs, that they may not be unfruitful.

**Acts 9:36**

Now in Joppa there was a certain disciple named Tabitha (which translated in Greek is called Dorcas); this woman was abounding with deeds of kindness and charity, which she continually did.

**Ephesians 2:10**

For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good deeds, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

**Matthew 5:16**

“Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good deeds, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.”

**1 Peter 2:12**

Keep your behavior excellent among the Gentiles, so that in the thing in which they slander you as evildoers, they may on account of your good deeds, as they observe them, glorify God in the day of visitation.

**41. When we faithfully pray for our Seven for Heaven every day, God will open our eyes to see opportunities to do good deeds for them.**

**42. When we do good deeds for people, our prayer power with God on their behalf goes up.**

**1 John 3:22-23**

And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do the things that are pleasing in His sight. And this is His commandment, that we believe in the name of His Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, just as He commanded us.

**1 John 3:18**

Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue, but in good deeds and truth.

**43. When we do good deeds for people they will become more responsive to our attempts to influence them in the direction of faith in Jesus.**

**Galatians 6:9-10**

And let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we shall reap if we do not grow weary. So then, while we have opportunity, let us do good to all men.

**44. Doing good deeds for others takes lots of time and energy. God will give it to us when we ask. Daily is good.**

**2 Thessalonians 2:16-17**

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself and God our Father, who has loved us and given us eternal comfort and good hope by grace, comfort and strengthen your hearts in every good deed and word.

**Acts 10:38**

“You know of Jesus of Nazareth, how God anointed Him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and how He went about doing good deeds, and healing all who were oppressed by the devil; for God was with Him.”

**45. The Fourth Step that we look for in our relationship with lost people is to listen carefully to their conversations with us and offer to pray for trials and problems in their life.**

**46. When a lost friend says “yes” to our invitation to pray for their problem they are expressing a statement of faith that will powerfully draw them closer to a saving faith in Jesus.**

**47. As Christians we spend a lot of time praying for each other’s problems and needs.**

**We are going to heaven.**

**We need to spend the bulk of our prayer time praying for the problems and needs of lost people.**

**48. The last step in our plan to bring people to Jesus is to invite them to a party, and then invite them to church.**

**Luke 5:27-32**

After that He went out and noticed a tax collector named Levi sitting in the tax booth, and He said to him, “Follow Me.” And he left everything behind, and got up and began to follow Him. And Levi gave a big reception for Him in his house; and there was a great crowd of tax collectors and other people who were reclining at the table with them.

The Pharisees and their scribes began grumbling at His disciples, saying, “Why do you eat and drink with the tax collectors and sinners?”

And Jesus answered and said to them, “It is not those who are well who need a physician, but those who are sick. I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance.”

**49. A party is an event where having fun is the goal.**

**50. A party done by people who attend your Church is different than most parties for at least three reasons.**

**51. God comes to your parties.**

**Matthew 18:20**

“For where two or three have gathered together in My name, I am there in their midst.”

**52. Those who are part of your church family love each other.**

**John 13:35**

“By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”

**53. The more your church prays together the more love there will be.**

**Philippians 1:9**

And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in real knowledge and all discernment.

**Acts 4:31-32**

When they had prayed, the place where they had gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak the word of God with boldness. And the congregation of those who believed were of one heart and soul; and not one of them claimed that anything belonging to him was his own, but all things were common property to them.

**54. One of the major characteristics of your church is the unity that they have which is very powerful in attracting lost people to God.**

**John 17:22-23**

“The glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, just as We are one; “I in them and You in Me, that they may be perfected in unity, so that the world may know that You sent Me, and loved them, even as You have loved Me.”

**Philippians 1:27**

Only conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or remain absent, I will hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel.

**55. The influencing power of a group is exponentially more powerful than that of an individual.**

**Acts 2:46-47**

Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.

**56. A goal of inviting a lost person to hang out with us is that they might become a seeker.**

**Deuteronomy 4:29**

“But from there you will seek the Lord your God, and you will find Him if you search for Him with all your heart and all your soul.”

**James 4:8**

Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.

**57. Once a person begins to be a “seeker” it is relatively easy to get them to come to our church when invited.**

**58. Our highest goal as a witness for Jesus is to personally share the gospel with a lost person, and to have them believe and accept the gift of salvation.**

**59. Effective witnesses for Jesus are attentive for opportunities, wise in what and how much they share, and very sensitive to the leading and prompting of the Holy Spirit.**

**Acts 8:29**

Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go up and join this chariot.”

**60. When we daily pray for our “Seven for Heaven,” God will make us a fisher of men.**

**61. Many Christians wouldn’t know what to say if someone asked them how to get to heaven.**

**62. If we are really serious about being a witness for Jesus we ought to be prepared to lead someone to Jesus.**

**1 Peter 2:15**

But sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to give a reason to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence.

**2 Timothy 4:2**

Preach the word; be ready in season and out of season.

**1 Timothy 4:16**

Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; persevere in these things; for as you do this you will insure salvation both for yourself and for those who hear you.

**63. When we are prepared, God will provide opportunities for us to share.**

**1 Corinthians 3:5**

What then is Apollos? And what is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, even as the Lord gave opportunity to each one.

**64. God isn’t going to bring a person who is ready to trust Jesus across the path of a person who is not well prepared to give clear directions how to do that.**