

**IMPACT**  
GROUPS



# INVITING THE UNCHURCHED

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- Unchurched people want to talk about GOD.
- Surveys report 90% of today's unchurched will come to church if invited by a family member or friend.



# INVITING THE UNCHURCHED

- The unchurched also includes the “formerly” churched and spiritually **WOUNDED**.
- Unchurched people are most impressed by **LOVING-KINDNESS**
- **THIRTEEN** percent of unchurched Americans desire someone with whom to discuss their personal and spiritual needs.

# INVITING THE UNCHURCHED

- At the same time Christians say they want to **WITNESS** effectively and talk with people one-on-one about God.
- Get together with your church's "**BRINGERS,**" those who invite outsiders in your church.

# INVITING THE UNCHURCHED

- Developing a relationship with the unchurched is important.  
*Build Bridges of Friendship by:*
  - Becoming personally acquainted with unchurched people;
  - Cultivating friendships;
  - Praying for your friends;
  - Sharing your social life with them;
  - Complimenting rather than condemn;
  - Talking about your journey of faith at the level of the unchurched person's receptivity;
  - Believing God is at work in the unchurched whether or not you see progress.

# INVITING THE UNCHURCHED

- Ask the Holy Spirit to stir your spirit with **Rom 10:14**  
*“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?”*

# INVITING THE UNCHURCHED

- The unchurched yearn for a **COMMUNITY** in which to belong.
- Belonging leads to change in beliefs and **VALUES**
- Gallup's survey revealed that **52%** of unchurched Americans indicate they intend to return to worship services.
- The unchurched feel **GUILTY** about not attending church.



# INVITING THE UNCHURCHED

- The unchurched **FEAR** they will feel out of place.
- Many believe church to be the **MOST** relevant institution in today's society.
- Some unchurched report negative experiences from visiting churches, yet they are forgiving and view the church **POSITIVELY**.





# INVITING THE UNCHURCHED

How will you assess the felt needs of the unchurched in your community?

1. Are you an **ACTIVE** member of a nearby church? (if yes, wish the person well and end the interview.)
2. What do you think is the great **NEED** in [your area]?
3. Why do you think most people don't **ATTEND** church?

# INVITING THE UNCHURCHED

4. If you were looking for a church in the area, what kinds of things would you look for?
5. What advice would you give me as a layperson in my church? What could I do for you?

# INVITING THE UNCHURCHED

## Small Churches

## Groups/House

Dialogue questions for small groups:

- Why are we part of this small group?
- What is special about this group?
- What might someone new to this group gain by being with us?
- What might our congregation gain by inviting friends to visit with us for worship and other events?

# INVITING THE UNCHURCHED

## Small Group (cont)

- How do we invite friends to visit our Church/Group?
- How are newcomers welcomed and encouraged to become part of us?
- Are we ready to invite people?



# INVITING THE UNCHURCHED

## Small Group (cont)

**Role Plays:** Take turns giving the invitation. The person receiving the invitation will ask why they are invited to the event/service.

- **Scenario 1:** Invite a friend to come to a worship service to hear about Jesus.
- **Scenario 2:** Invite a friend to go to a movie with a Christian theme.
- **Scenario 3:** Invite a friend to go with you to provide social care.