

A 13-Week Journey to Reaching Your Community Together

Christ's Method

For True Success



— Teams for Service Series —

Christ's Method Alone



Read for This Week's Study: Matthew 9:35–38; Matthew 10:7–8; John 6:44; John 16:8–11; 1 Corinthians 3:6–7; Colossians 1:3–9; Genesis 18:20–33; Matthew 18:19–20; Acts 1:14

Memory Text: “Christ’s method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Saviour mingled with men as one who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. Then He bade them, ‘Follow Me.’”

Ellen G. White, *The Ministry of Healing*, p. 143



Sabbath Afternoon

It is the great paradox of modern Adventism: We possess the “everlasting gospel”—the most profound, life-altering message on the planet—yet many of us feel paralyzed when it comes to sharing it. We often view evangelism as a terrifying sales pitch or a job for “professionals,” leaving the average member feeling guilty, ill-equipped, or anxious. We sit on the sidelines, waiting for a program to finish the work, while our neighbors remain unreached.

The missing link is rarely theological knowledge; it is practical. We often know what to say, but we have lost the art of how to connect.

This quarter, we are hitting “reset.” We will move beyond guilt trips and complex strategies to rediscover the simple, organic, and powerful lifestyle of Jesus. We call it “Christ’s Method.” It is not a tactic; it is the way Love operates in a broken world.

The Theme of the Quarter: Over the next 13 weeks, we will deconstruct our Memory Text phrase by phrase. We will learn to mingle with purpose, show sympathy, minister to real needs, win confidence, and bid people to follow Jesus. And we will not do this alone, but as Teams for Service—supporting one another in the harvest. Let’s move from sitting to serving.

Read Matthew 9:35–38 and Matthew 10:7–8. How do these passages define Jesus's approach to ministry?

Many churches today feel stuck, praying for revival while seeing little movement, wondering what they are doing wrong. Perhaps the solution isn't a new program, but a return to Christ's original one.

Compare Scripture: Read Matthew 4:23 and Matthew 9:35.

Observation: These two verses act as “bookends” to a major section of Matthew's Gospel. What specific three activities does Matthew repeat in both verses?

Jesus went throughout the cities and villages, teaching in synagogues, proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and affliction. This was His method: ministering to hurting people where they were while lifting up the gospel message.

Interestingly, a close look at this section of Matthew reveals that the ratio of healing events to teaching moments is roughly two to one. Jesus actually devoted more time to healing the sick than to preaching.

Discussion Point: Why would Jesus spend so much time on physical ailments if His primary goal was saving souls?

This practical healing work had a specific purpose: to break down prejudice and prepare hearts to receive the message of salvation. He imparted earthly blessings to incline hearts toward the gospel of His grace.

Ellen White called this combined approach—the union of Christlike work for the body and for the soul—the “true interpretation of the gospel” (*Review and Herald*, March 4, 1902).

Conversely, she used very strong language regarding the separation of gospel ministry from practical service, warning that “when the gospel ministers and the medical missionary workers are not united, there is placed on our churches the worst evil that can be placed there” (*Sermons and Talks*, vol. 2, p. 237).

Application Question: Consider this promise: Had God's people carried forward medical missionary work—healing both soul and body—they ‘would have seen hundreds and thousands coming into the truth’ (*General Conference Bulletin*, April 12, 1901). How does your local church currently balance practical service with proclaiming the gospel? Are these aspects bound together, or are they separated?



God's Love through Prayer, Relationships, and Service

Christ's method alone brings true success in reaching people with the gospel. He connected with others, showed them sympathy and care, ministered to their needs, and won their trust.
Only then did He bid them, "*Follow Me.*"

Discover how Jesus connected with people on a personal level.

Learn how to build meaningful relationships and meet the needs of those around you.

Explore practical ways to engage in Christlike service in your community.

Gain insights on working together in teams to multiply your impact for God's kingdom.

Join us in this inspiring journey of prayer, relationships, service, and mission. Learn how to follow the Savior's example and experience the joy of reaching its true success.

*"Christ's method alone will give true success in reaching the people."
— The Ministry of Healing, p. 143*

