

December's Sunday School Series is entitled

“ONE IN DECEMBER”

Phil. 3:13-14, “I (Apostle Paul) do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.” (NKJV)

I. THIS WEEK THE “ONE THING” IS TO INVITE.

II. WHY DO PEOPLE NEED TO BE INVITED?

III. WHEN IS ONE OF THE BEST TIMES TO “INVITE ONE?”

A. 46% (almost 5 out of 10) have said they are more open to considering matters of faith during the Christmas holiday season.

IV. WHY IS THERE SO MUCH POWER IN AN INVITATION?

A. There are several reasons why a personal invitation is so effective over a church TV ad, post card or a church sign.

1. A personal invitation makes us feel special.
2. A personal invitation makes us feel wanted and accepted.
3. A personal invitation makes us more likely to accept.

V. WHAT ARE THE PERSONAL BENEFITS OF US “INVITING ONE?”

A. We will see relatives saved so we will see them in Heaven.

Acts 10:24, “And the following day they entered Caesarea. Now Cornelius was waiting for them, and had called together (INVITED) his relatives and close friends.” (NKJV)

B. We will see some, whom we invite, get saved and then become used by God to get others saved.

John 1:40-42, “One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, ‘We have found the Messiah’ (which is translated, the Christ). And he brought him to Jesus.” (NKJV)

John 1:43-46, “The following day Jesus wanted to go to Galilee, and He found Philip and said to him, ‘Follow Me.’ Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, ‘We have found Him of whom Moses in the law, and also the prophets, wrote ‘Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.’ And Nathanael said to him, ‘Can

anything good come out of Nazareth?' Philip said to him, 'Come and see.'" (NKJV)

VI. SO WHAT TYPE OF PEOPLE SHOULD WE BE LOOKING TO INVITE TO CHURCH THIS CHRISTMAS?

Matt. 9:10-13, "Now it happened, as Jesus sat at the table in the house, that behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and sat down with Him and His disciples. And when the Pharisees saw it, they said to His disciples, 'Why does your Teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?' When Jesus heard that, He said to them, 'Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy and not sacrifice.' For I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance.'" (NKJV)

- A. Like Jesus, we should invite all sinners but especially those who are more obvious sinners.
- B. Like Jesus, we need to look for people who are having problems and invite them.
- C. Like Jesus, we need to invite the weary and heavy laden.

Matt. 11:28-30, "Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light." (NKJV)

Be of good courage: Jesus said He would be with us.