

**JESUS BADE
THEM,
“FOLLOW
ME”**



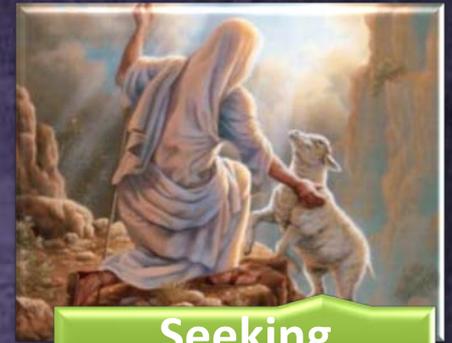
After connecting with the people, Jesus called them, "Follow me."

We are bidden to call others too, to invite people to follow Jesus so they can find salvation.

We should follow the next steps to do so:



Knowing the shepherd.



Seeking the lost.



Building bridges.



Testifying.



Calling.





KNOWING THE SHEPHERD

"I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own." (John 10:14)

The sheep know the voice of their shepherd and follow him. How can I listen to Jesus' voice and tell the difference between His voice and the enemy's?



By being surrounded by nature.



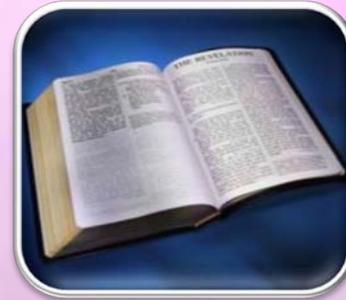
By God-driven circumstances and events.



By the Holy Spirit.



By words and acts from devout people.



By His Word.

We'll be able to guide other people to God once we're able to distinguish and follow Jesus' voice with His help.

If we imitate Jesus, take part in His self-denial and have a sincere willingness to serve, then other people will know us and will want to follow us. That's when we'll guide them to the great Shepherd, we'll teach them to hear His voice and to follow Him.



SEEKING THE LOST

“What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he loses one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness, and go after the one which is lost until he finds it?” (Luke 15:4)

God is powerful enough to bring people to us, but that’s not the method He taught us. He asked us to go and find the lost ones, and He gave us example (Luke 19:10).



Seeking lost Adventists.

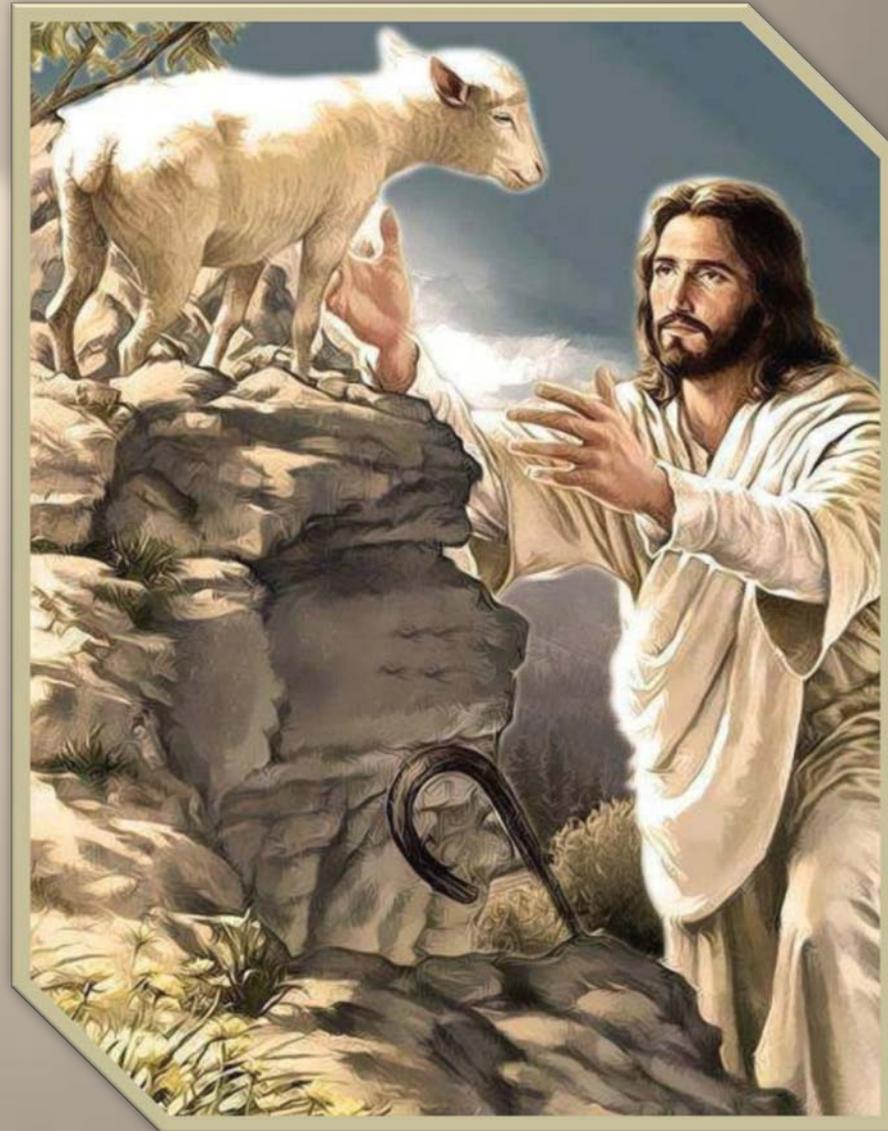


Seeking members of other Christian denominations.



Seeking people outside Christianity (Muslims, Buddhists, agnostics, atheists...).

Seeking a specific group only may be easier, but we must not forget all the groups that must be sought, rescued and brought back to the sheepfold.

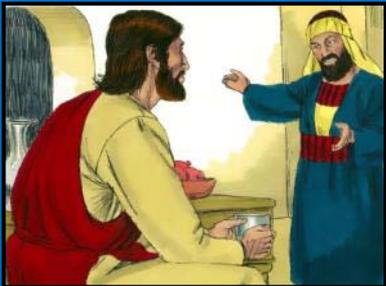


BUILDING BRIDGES

"And when Jesus came to the place, He looked up and saw him, and said to him, 'Zacchaeus, make haste and come down, for today I must stay at your house.'" (Luke 19:5)

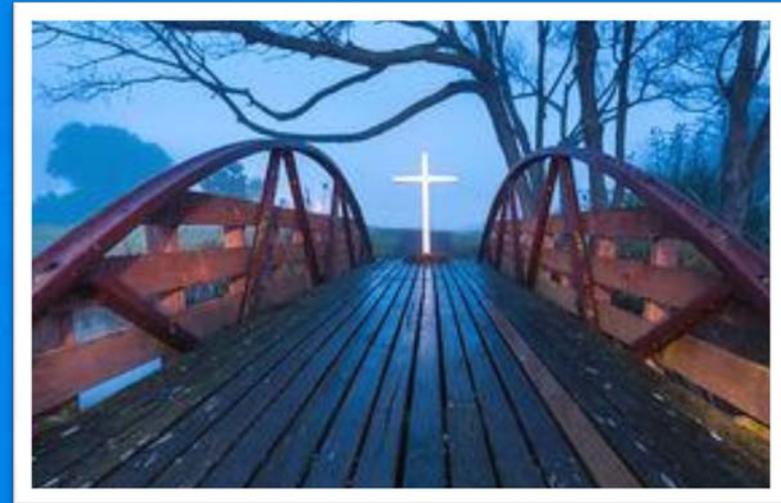
A bridge makes an inaccessible place easy to get to. Zacchaeus couldn't get to Jesus because of his height. Jesus build a "bridge" to personally relate to Him by inviting Himself to his home.

We need a spiritual point of view to build bridges between Jesus and the people who can't see Him. Which bridges can we build?



We are the bridge. Christians who genuinely love God and are eager to nurture lasting friendships.

If we are deeply aware of God's love and grace for sinners like us, we will passionately seek those outside of the crowd who are short in spiritual stature and caringly usher them to Christ.



TESTIFYING

“But it will turn out for you as an occasion for testimony.” (Luke 21:13)

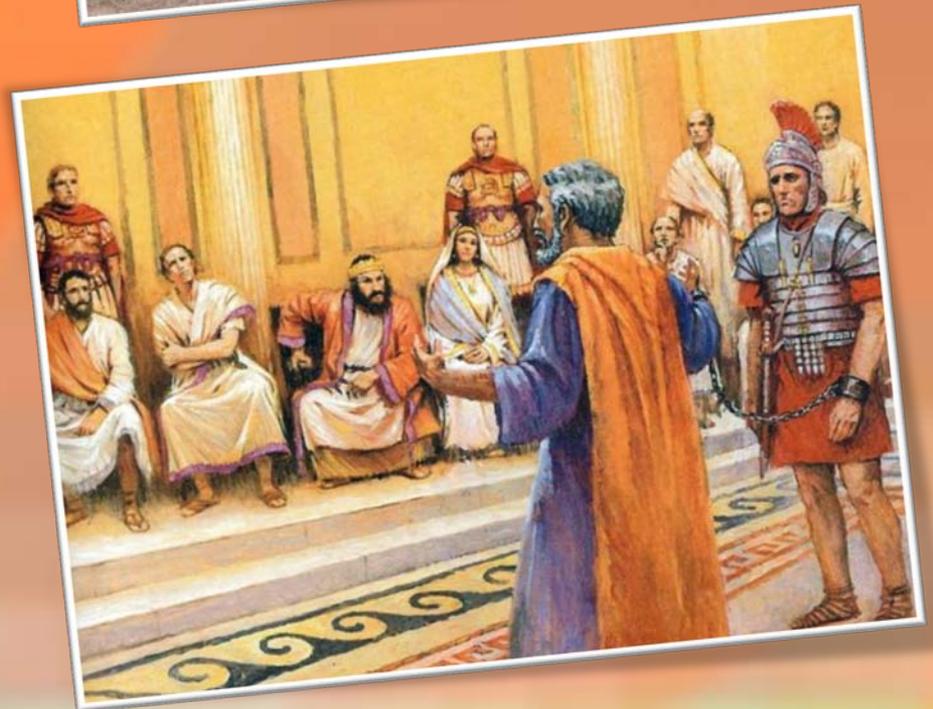
Making friends, caring for them, covering their needs as far as we can, praying for them, gaining trust...

God’s plan for our relationship with other people involves all those actions.

But that’s not everything. Our work is to finally win those people for Christ.

Introducing Jesus to them is the main point. As we minister people and gain trust, we must introduce Jesus to their lives.

The most effective way to do so is telling our testimony; telling how Jesus has changed our lives.



CALLING

"Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me." (Revelation 3:20)

People may not be aware, but the Holy Spirit calls everyone. That's Jesus knocking their heart's door.

If someone opens his or her door shyly to see who's calling, Jesus introduces to them by using His devout children.

We don't know who's ready to accept the call or when it's the best moment, so we must remain constantly working in communion with God.

He will help us to call the people at the right moment.

That call cannot be delayed forever; it's essential for them accepting Jesus.

Will we be at the door of people to introduce Jesus to them when they open their heart?



“Christ will impart to His messengers the same yearning love that He Himself has in seeking for the lost. We are not merely to say, “Come.” There are those who hear the call, but their ears are too dull to take in its meaning. Their eyes are too blind to see anything good in store for them. Many realize their great degradation. They say, I am not fit to be helped; leave me alone. But the workers must not desist. In tender, pitying love, lay hold of the discouraged and helpless ones. Give them your courage, your hope, your strength...

If the servants of God will walk with Him in faith, He will give power to their message. They will be enabled so to present His love and the danger of rejecting the grace of God that men will be constrained to accept the gospel.”