

INVITE

One of the greatest privileges of following Jesus is helping others discover the hope and grace we have found in Him. From the moment Jesus called His first disciples, His invitation included a purpose beyond themselves. He didn't simply say, "Follow Me." He also said, "I will make you fishers of people." As they experienced His grace, they were called to help others experience it too. For many of us, few parts of following Jesus feel more intimidating than sharing our faith. We worry that we'll say the wrong thing, won't have all the answers, or might make someone uncomfortable. Because of those fears, it can feel easier to remain silent and hope someone else reaches out.

Invite

leading others to experience the Hope and Grace of Jesus

But inviting people to Jesus isn't about having all the right words. It's about caring enough to point people toward the One who has changed your life. Every invitation is an act of love. Sometimes it means inviting someone to church. Sometimes it means welcoming someone into your home. Sometimes it means beginning a spiritual conversation, sharing part of your story, or simply asking how you can pray for someone. Inviting changes us. Every time we reach out, we learn to depend on God rather than ourselves. We become more attentive to the people around us and more willing to step beyond what feels comfortable. We begin to see people as Jesus sees them—with compassion, purpose, and eternal value.

You cannot change someone's heart—that is God's work. But God delights in using ordinary people to extend extraordinary invitations. Over the next five days, you'll discover how one simple invitation, offered with genuine love, can become part of God's work in someone's life. As you read, ask God to show you who He may be inviting you to notice, love, and lead toward Jesus.

Remember...

The goal isn't simply to invite more people to church.

The goal is to become more like Jesus.

Day 1

The Heart of the Father

Scripture: Luke 15:3–7

Luke 15 begins. Tax collectors and notorious sinners gathered around Jesus to hear Him teach. Rather than celebrating, the religious leaders criticized Jesus for welcoming them. Their complaint revealed how differently they viewed people than Jesus did. In response, Jesus told a parable about a shepherd who left ninety-nine sheep to search for one that was lost. The story reveals the heart of our Heavenly Father. God is not indifferent toward people who are far from Him. He notices, values, and pursues them. Before this passage teaches us about inviting others, it reminds us why we invite: people matter deeply to God.

Application

One way we follow Jesus is to **invite** people to experience hope and grace. It is easy to become comfortable around people who believe what we believe. While those relationships matter, they can cause us to lose sight of those Jesus came to seek and save. Following Jesus means asking Him to shape our hearts until we see people as He sees them. Who around you feels overlooked, disconnected, or far from God? Your invitation may remind them they are seen and loved.

Every time you Invite, you are taking another intentional step in following Jesus.

Reflection

- Who in your life needs to experience the compassion of Jesus?
- How can you reach out to that person this week?

Prayer

Father, thank You for pursuing me when I was far from You. Give me Your heart for those who do not know You. Help me see them with compassion, love them without judgment, and point them toward Jesus. Amen.

Day 2

Your Story Matters

Scripture: John 9:24–25

John 9 tells the story of a man who had been blind since birth. After Jesus healed him, the leaders questioned him, hoping to discredit his testimony and Jesus. They wanted explanations he could not provide. Yet the man responded with honesty: “I don’t know... But I know this: I was blind, and now I can see.” He did not claim to understand everything or have every answer. But he knew what Jesus had done for him, and no one could take that away from him. His story became a testimony to Jesus.

Application

One way we follow Jesus is to **Invite** people to experience His hope and grace. Many hesitate to discuss faith because they feel unprepared. They worry someone will ask a question they cannot answer. Those fears are understandable, but they can keep us silent. Sharing your faith does not require having every answer. It begins with sharing what Jesus has done for you. No one can tell your story better than you. Your story is ultimately about God’s grace and power to change lives. When you share it with humility, you are pointing people toward Jesus.

Every time you Invite, you are taking another intentional step in following Jesus.

Reflection

- How has Jesus changed your life since you began following Him?
- Who might benefit from hearing your story of God’s faithfulness?

Prayer

Father, thank You for Your work in my life. Give me courage to share my story with humility and honesty. Help me point others toward Jesus. Use my story to help someone draw closer to You. Amen.

Day 3

Love Opens Doors

Scripture: Colossians 4:2–6

Paul wrote from prison, yet his heart was focused on the gospel. He asked believers to pray for open doors to speak about Christ and to speak wisely and graciously. Paul teaches that our lives matter as much as our

words: “Live wisely among those who are not believers.” Our message gains credibility when people see Christ reflected in how we treat them. Kindness and compassion prepare the soil for conversations about faith. Speaking with grace means communicating truth with the love Jesus demonstrated.

Application

One way we follow Jesus is to **Invite** people to experience His hope and grace. Many Christians picture evangelism as one conversation that must explain everything perfectly. That expectation creates fear and keeps us silent. But people rarely come to Jesus through a single conversation. They often come through relationships. People notice how we respond to disappointment, success, conflict, and suffering. They notice whether our kindness is genuine and our lives reflect the hope we proclaim. Our greatest invitation is demonstrated through consistent love. Opportunities will come to share our story, explain the gospel, or invite someone to church. Those conversations are most effective when built upon love and trust.

Every time you Invite, you are taking another intentional step in following Jesus.

Reflection

- Are your words and actions pointing people toward Jesus?
- With whom could you begin building a deeper relationship?

Prayer

Father, help me live and speak in ways that reflect Jesus. Fill my words with grace and my actions with love. Open doors for conversations and give me courage to point others toward You. Amen.

Day 4

You Invite . . . God Changes

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 3:5–9

The Corinthian believers were dividing based on loyalty to their leaders. Some claimed Paul, while others favored Apollos. Paul corrected their thinking by explaining that both men were servants through whom they had come to believe. Using a picture, Paul said that he planted it and Apollos watered it, but God caused it to grow. The planter and the one who waters serve the same purpose, and each will be rewarded for faithful work. The church is God’s field, God’s building, and God’s work.

Application

We follow Jesus when we **Invite** people to experience His hope and grace. Many believers assume every conversation must end with someone accepting Christ. When it does not, they feel they have failed. But Scripture measures success by our faithfulness, not another person’s response. Sometimes you will plant a seed through conversation. Sometimes you will water a seed planted years ago. You may invite a friend to church not ready to come—yet. None of those efforts are wasted. God is working even when you cannot see it. You may never know how He uses your faithfulness.

Every time you Invite, you are taking another intentional step in following Jesus.

Reflection

- Are you measuring success by someone’s response or by your faithfulness?
- Who will you continue praying for and inviting without giving up?

Prayer

Father, thank You for allowing me to participate in Your work. Help me remain faithful and not become discouraged when I do not see results. Remind me that You change hearts. Give me perseverance to keep praying, loving, and inviting. Amen.

Day 5

The Invitation Is Worth It

Scripture: Luke 14:21–23

Jesus told the parable of a banquet to illustrate God's invitation into His kingdom. A host prepared a feast and invited guests, but they made excuses for not coming. Instead of canceling it, he sent his servants through streets and alleys to invite the poor, crippled, blind, and lame. This reveals God's heart. He desires people to enjoy His kingdom and extends it through His people. The servants neither prepared the banquet nor convinced anyone to attend. They simply delivered the invitation. God prepares the feast; we invite others to come.

Application

We follow Jesus when we **invite** people to experience His hope and grace. Every invitation expresses God's love. Whether you invite someone to church, share your story, offer to pray, or begin a spiritual conversation, you are extending the invitation Christ extended to you. Never underestimate a simple invitation. You may never know how a conversation, act of kindness, or invitation could become a turning point in someone's story. As you invite others, trust that God is working and drawing people toward Himself.

Every time you invite, you are taking another intentional step in following Jesus.

Reflection

- Who has God placed in your life who may be waiting for an invitation?
- How has someone else's invitation shaped your journey with Jesus?

Prayer

Father, thank You for inviting me into Your family through Jesus. Help me extend that invitation to others. Give me courage to reach out with love and trust You with the results. Use my life to help others discover the hope and grace of Jesus. Amen.