

More Than Ever

Whether it's sitting next to a new friend at lunch, going to a birthday party, or watching a game at someone's house, all of us have benefited from someone inviting us to something. But there's an invitation we can extend that may change someone's life forever. And the opportunity to extend that invitation exists now more than ever.

Discussion Questions

- 1. Is it usually easy or difficult for you to invite people to something? Why?
- 2. Name an invitation that someone extended to you that ended up being a turning point in your life.
- 3. If you grew up in church, was inviting someone to church presented more as an obligation or an act of genuine care for the other person?
- 4. What are some things that stand in the way of you inviting someone to come to church with you? What can you do to overcome those obstacles?
- 5. Here's a simple approach to remember when inviting someone: "Life is complicated. You want to get it right. My church would love to help." Then follow with, "Come sit with me." How does that approach feel to you?
- 6. Who do you know that is experiencing one of the three "nots"? That is, they are **not currently in church**, things are **not going well**, **or** they are **not prepared** for a particular situation.
 - What is your best next step with that person?
 - What's the most likely outcome if you invited them to go to church with you?
 - Is there a possible negative connotation they might have from receiving an invite from you? If so, how can you frame your invitation in a way that would likely avoid that?

Moving Forward

Jesus brought the kingdom of God to earth and everyone is invited to participate in it. We want our church to help create a world where . . .

- The church is considered an **essential** part of every community.
- People skeptical of what we believe are envious of **how well** we treat one another and are amazed at how well we treat them.
- People want the message of Jesus to be true before they believe it's true.

You can do something that could change everything for somebody: invite them to come sit with you.