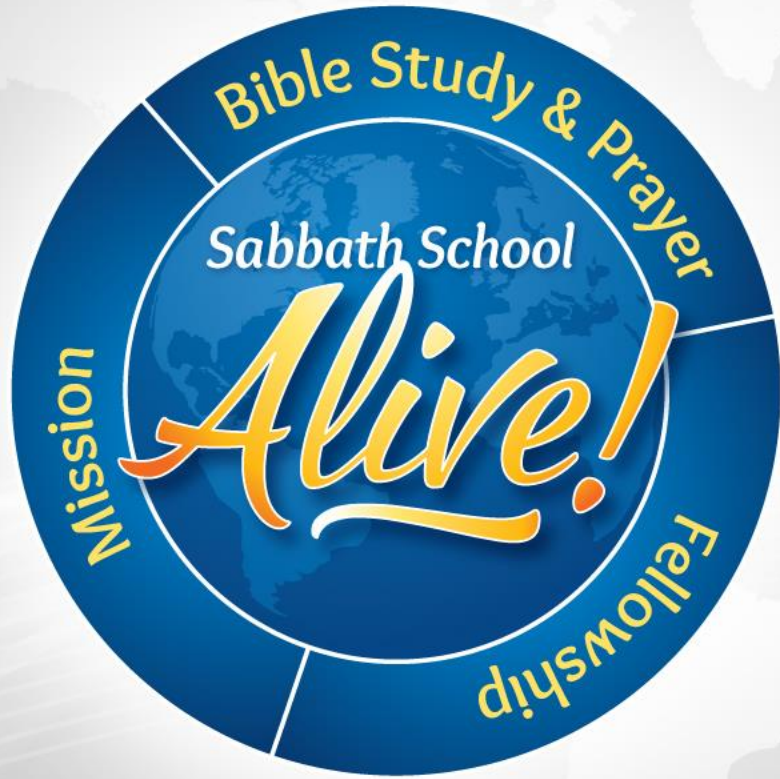




General Conference
Sabbath School and
Personal Ministries





The Lost Art of Discipleship



The goal of discipleship is not just a worshiper, but a **worker**.

Why Does the Church Exist?



“Now after John was put in prison, Jesus came to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel.”

Mark 1: 14-18

Why Does the Church Exist?



“And as He walked by the Sea of Galilee, He saw Simon and Andrew his brother casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. Then Jesus said to them, “Follow Me, and I will make you become fishers of men. “They immediately left their nets and followed Him.”

Mark 1: 14-18



What is a **disciple**?



“By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have **love** for one another.”

John 13:35



“Then Jesus said to His disciples, “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him **deny himself**, and take up his cross, and follow Me.”

Matthew 16:24



“Then Jesus said to them, ‘Follow Me, and I will make you become **fishers of men.**”

Mark 1:17



**A disciple is a:
loving,
self-denying,
soul-winner.**



The goal of discipleship is to **be like Jesus.**

Condition of the Church



“It is evident that all the sermons that have been preached have not developed a large class of **self-denying workers**. . . . **Our future for eternity** is at stake. The churches are **withering up** because they have failed to use their talents in **diffusing light**.

Condition of the Church



“Careful instruction should be given which will be as lessons from the Master, that all may **put their light to practical use.**”

Testimonies for the Church, vol.6, p. 431

Spiritual Disorders



“The sin which is indulged to the greatest extent, and which separates us from God and produces so many **spiritual disorders**, is **selfishness**.”

Counsels for the Church, p. 80



But **how?**



“A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone who is perfectly trained **will be like his teacher.**”

Luke 6:40



The call to make disciples is **a call to train.**

Jesus, the Disciple Maker



“Follow Me, and **I will make you** become fishers of men.”

Mark 1 :17

First Principle of Discipleship



".....**teaching** them to observe all things that I have commanded you;...."

Matthew 28:20

Jesus, the Disciple Maker



“When He sent forth the Twelve and afterward the Seventy, to proclaim the kingdom of God, He was teaching them **their duty to impart to others** what He had made known to them. In all His work He was **training them** for individual labor . . . ”

The Acts of the Apostles, p. 32



Informing is **NOT** teaching.



**Teaching ensures the information is
received,
understood,
remembered.**



Teaching **Vs** Training

Teaching **Vs** Training



- Teaching is the transference of **information**
- Training is the transference of **skills**

Teaching **Vs** Training



- Teaching changes someone's **beliefs**
- Training changes someone's **life**

Training Ingredients



- **Teaching**
- **Skills**
- **Practice**
- **Time**

Jesus, the Disciple Maker



Christ's method of disciple making includes:

- **Instruction**
- **Observation**
- **Participation**

“The **harvest truly is great**, but the laborers *are* few; therefore, pray the Lord of the harvest **to send out laborers** into His harvest.”

Luke 10:2

Disciple-Making is NOT an
event, but is a **process**

There are **no short cuts** in the
Disciple-Making Process

Then He spoke many things to them in parables, saying: Behold **a sower went out to sow.**"

Matthew 13:3

Our **heart** is the **soil**

The process begins by individuals **showing interest** or we are **helping** people to have interest in **spiritual matters.**

Now the interest must be **nurtured,**
cultivated, harvested and
preserved.

Who is an **Interest**?

Stages in the life of an **Interest**

- **Friendship** Interest
- **Spiritual** Interest
- **Bible study** Interest
- **Baptism** Interest
- **Disciple Making** (Worker) Interest

Preparing -Gathering- Friendship
Interest

Funnel Model

“He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who **sows bountifully** will also **reap bountifully.**”

2 Corinthians 9:6

“From Christ’s methods of labor, we may learn many valuable lessons. **He did not follow merely one method**; in various ways He sought to **gain the attention** of the multitude; and **then He proclaimed** to them the truths of the gospel.”

Evangelism , p. 123

The Sower **sows** the seed
everywhere

The Fishermen **cast the net**
wide

He who **observes the wind will not sow,**
And he who regards the clouds will not
reap.

Ecclesiastes 11:4

Identifying the proper soil
and **preparing** the soil

Gathering Interest through **Personal Labor**
and **Church Organised Initiatives**

Gathering Interest through **Personal Labor**

Make **Friends**

Genuine **interest** in people

- Be grateful
- Be generous
- Be inclusive
- Be polite
- Be helpful
- Be gracious

Christ's method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Savior **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.**'"

The Ministry of Healing , p. 143

Gathering Interest through **Church**
Organised Initiatives

how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who **went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil**, for God was with Him.

Acts 10:38

Church should **spend** significant amount of **time, energy** and **resources** to **gather** and **identify** those who are open to spiritual interest

INTEREST **REVIEW** PROCESS

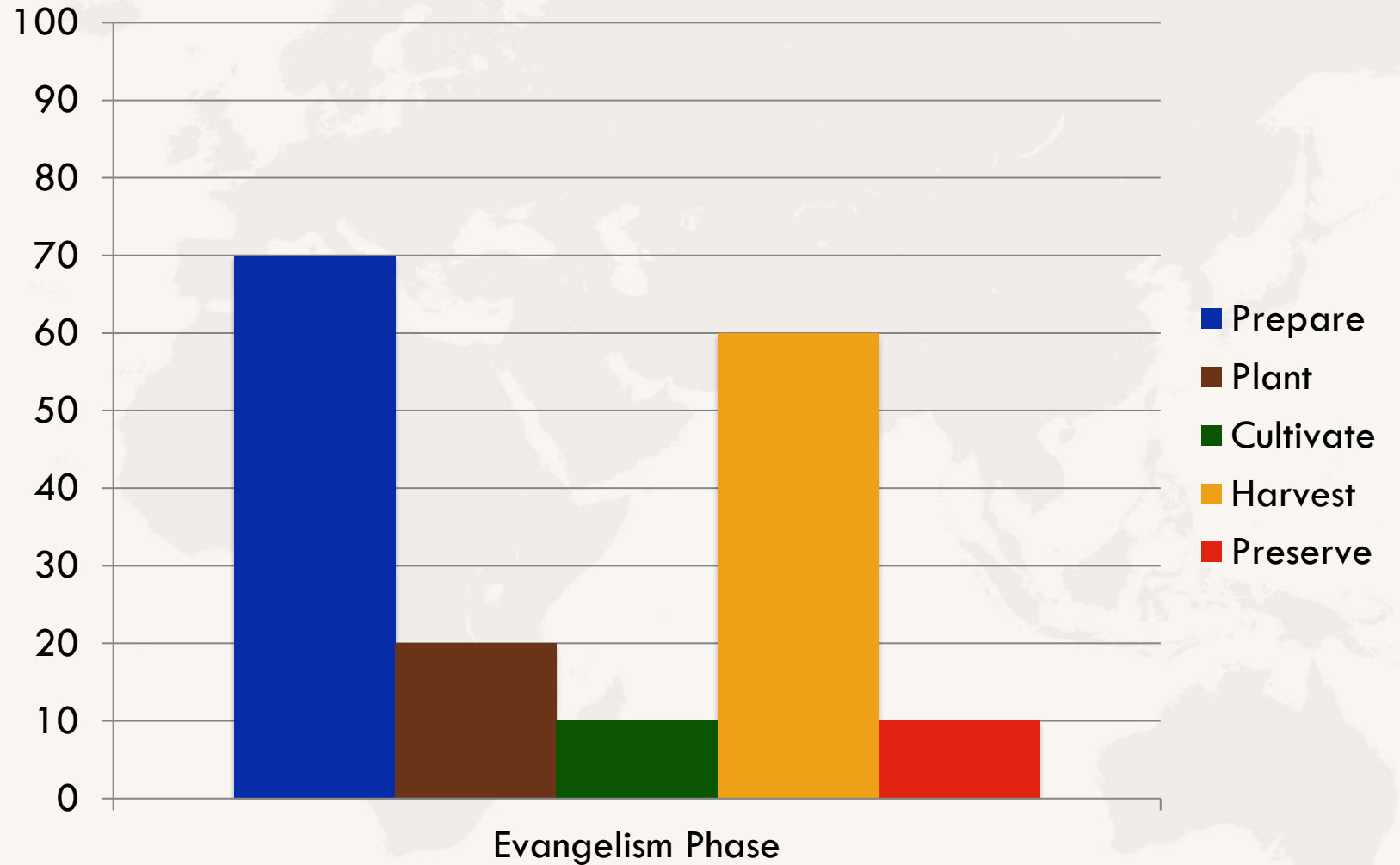
Seeking the **Help** of Volunteers

Why?

- To **pray** specifically
- To **minister** to their need
- To identify any **support** that you or anyone else in the church can give.
- To **invite** them to events that they will be interested in.
- To **organise** events based on the needs

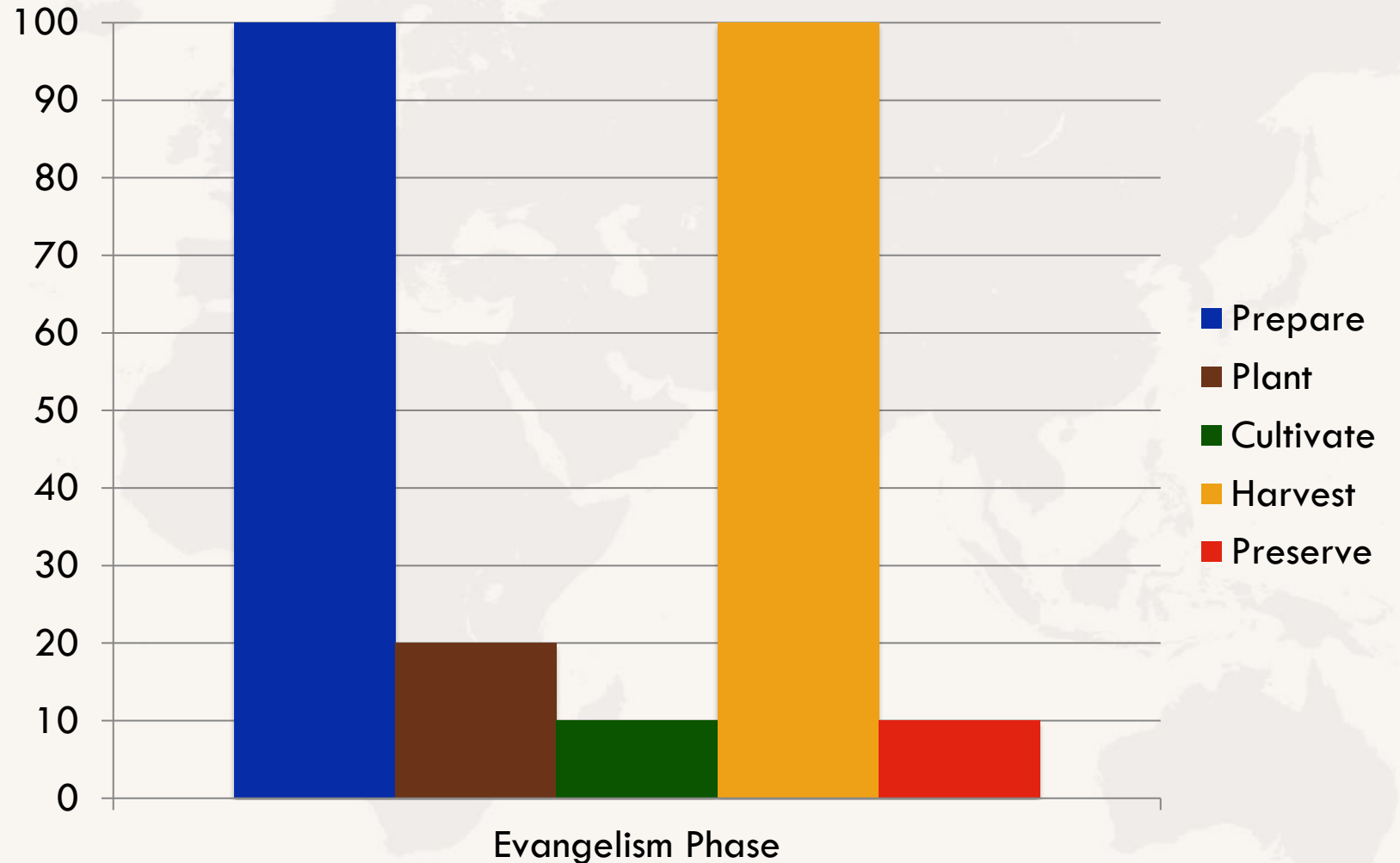
Assessing the Local Church

Every
Church Has
**Strengths &
Weaknesses**



Assessing the Local Church

If we focus on
one or two and
neglect the
others



Planting Spiritual **Interest**

- **Seek** out spiritual interest?
- **Pray** for spiritual interest?
- **Put forth efforts to lead** friendship interest to spiritual interest?
- **Church create and oversee plans** to find, pray for and develop spiritual interests

There are **different** types of soil
(**hearts**)

How will know someone has
spiritual interest?

Test the soil by **planting the seed
of the truth.**

“The **Sowers** of the seed have a **work to do in preparing hearts** to receive the gospel.”

Christ's Object Lessons, p. 57

In order for the seed to grow, the soil must be fertile. We can help to **create this favorable condition** by preparing the soil. In spiritual terms this refers to **softening the heart** to receive the spiritual truth.

How do we **soften the hearts** of
the individuals to be **receptive** to
spiritual things?

“There is **need of coming close** to the people by **personal effort**.... We are to weep with those that weep and rejoice with those that rejoice.”

Ministry of Healing , p. 143-144

“Accompanied by the power of **persuasion**, the power of **prayer**, the power of the **love of God**, this work will not, **cannot, be without fruit.**”

Ministry of Healing , p.143-144

“In **Christlike sympathy** we should **come close** to men individually and seek to **awaken their spiritual interest** in the great things of eternal life.”

Christ's Object Lessons, p. 57

Awakening Spiritual Interest
through **Personal Labor**

- Conversations
- Testimonies
- Literature sharing
- Media sharing
- Invitation ministry

Awakening Spiritual Interest
through **Church Ministries**

Developing Key **Planting** Ministries in the **Church**

Literature Ministry

Media Ministry

Invitation Ministry

Partnering with Supportive Ministries

Soil is **prepared**, seed has been **sown**. You notice it is germinating.

What next?

Cultivating the Interest

How?

Through **Bible studies**

Different ways Bible studies

- **Personal** one-one
- Offering **online** Bible correspondence course (but you follow through)
- **Watching** Bible studies series with the Interest

Christ's method
is **personal**.

“Then Philip opened his mouth and began at the same scripture and **preached** unto **him** Jesus .’ ”

Acts 8:35 (KJV)

“And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.”

2 Timothy 2:2

“And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to **teach others also.**”

2 Timothy 2:2

Christ
Paul > Christ
Timothy > Christ
Faithful Men > Christ
Others