

A Church on a Mission – I’m in the Lord’s Army!

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Before enlisting, a soldier must be convinced:

- 1. Of the mission**
- 2. In their personal calling and responsibility to the mission**
- 3. That the cost is worth the price of the mission**

1. We believe in the mission of Jesus

Romans 6:23

“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Luke 19:10

For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.

John 3:16-18

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. ¹⁸ Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son.

Luke 14:23

Then the master told his servant, ‘Go out to the roads and country lanes and compel them to come in, so that my house will be full.

Matthew 25:31-33

When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. ³² All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³ He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

Matthew 25:46

Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.

Romans 9:2–3 (NIV)

“I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were cursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my people, those of my own race...”

2. We believe the proper response to this is to lay our lives down for the cause

Luke 14:25–33

Large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and turning to them he said: ²⁶ “If anyone comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, even their own life—such a person cannot be my disciple. ²⁷ And whoever does not carry their cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸ “Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Won’t you first sit down and estimate the cost to see if you have enough money to complete it? ²⁹ For if you lay the foundation and are not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule you, ³⁰ saying, ‘This person began to build and wasn’t able to finish.’ ³¹ “Or suppose a king is about to go to war against another king. Won’t he first sit down and consider whether he is able with ten thousand men to oppose the one coming against him with twenty thousand? ³² If he is not able, he will send a delegation while the other is still a long way off and will ask for terms of peace. ³³ In the same way, those of you who do not give up everything you have cannot be my disciples.

“When Christ calls a man, he bids him come and die.”

-Dietrich Bonhoeffer

3. We believe Jesus is worth giving everything for

Matthew 13:44-46

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field. ⁴⁵ “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. ⁴⁶ When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.

2 Corinthians 11:24–25

"Five times I received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one. ²⁵ Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was pelted with stones, three times I was shipwrecked, I spent a night and a day in the open sea."

Romans 8:18

I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.

Philippians 3:8 (NIV)

I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord...

Philippians 1:23–24

I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; ²⁴ but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body.

Romans 12:1

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.