

# The Harvest



Tommy Gray | October 23, 2011

**In a nutshell:** The church has one mission: making disciples. It will take vision, prayer, workers, and generosity to gather *The Harvest*.

**Icebreaker:** Tommy used the childhood game “Simon Says...” as an illustration today.

**Discuss:** What was your favorite childhood game? Do you remember the rules?

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## Keys to Experiencing a Harvest of Disciples:

**Understand the Fundamentals.** Vince Lombardi was famous for starting over with the basics each season: “Gentlemen, this is a football.” If you don’t get the fundamentals right, everything that follows will be wrong. The church has one fundamental mission: make disciples. If we get this wrong, nothing else will matter. (A disciple is a faithful follower of Jesus who is capable of making another faithful follower of Jesus.)

**Discuss:** Matthew 28:19. (Compare multiple translations if you have them.) Do you agree with Tommy’s definition of a “disciple” (above)? How is Friendship doing at making disciples? Can you (personally) reproduce another follower of Jesus?

**It will take Vision.** Where there is no vision, the people perish. With no vision, we don’t know where we are going. We will never get to our destination if our navigation is off.

**Discuss:** Do you understand Friendship’s vision: “Love God. Love Others. Serve?”

**It will take Prayer.** We need to do more than talk about prayer. We need to pray.

**Discuss:** Are you satisfied with the quantity and quality of your prayers? What needs to change?

**It will take Workers.** Read Luke 10:2-3. Friendship must equip both youth and adults to become missionaries, pastors, church planters, etc. Jesus says, “Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves.” There is no bait and switch here: Not everyone will like you or your message.

**Discuss:** Are you concerned about the cost of obedience when Jesus says, “Go!”?

**It will take Generosity.** Read II Corinthians 9:5-15. We should give willingly, generously and cheerfully. God asks us to be generous (willingly... not as an extraction that is being ripped away from me). Be a conduit (blessings flow through you), not a cul-de-sac (Blessings accumulate with nowhere to go). Cheerful! Hilarious!

**Discuss:** Are you a conduit or a cul-de-sac? How do you know? How do you measure generosity?

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**As a Group:** Like the church, the purpose of Core Groups is to reproduce disciples.

**Discuss:** Are we (in our core group) becoming disciples who can produce disciples? What’s missing? What must we intentionally do to change this?