

## Serving by Reaching I

### “Networking”

“If you want to go quickly, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.” *African proverb.*

*Network means* a fabric or structure of cords or wires that cross at regular intervals and are knotted or secured at the crossings. *Merriam-Webster*

<sup>KJV</sup> **Ephesians 4:16** From whom the whole body **fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth**, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

<sup>Amp</sup> **Ephesians 4:16** From Him the whole body [the church, in all its various parts], **joined and knitted firmly together by what every joint supplies**, when each part is working properly, causes the body to grow and mature, building itself up in [unselfish] love.

<sup>NIV</sup> **Ephesians 4:16** From him the whole body, **joined and held together by every supporting ligament**, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

Our relationships forge our networks of life.

Sometimes, our nets get **broken** and need to be mended.

Reaching and **connecting** with people are the first steps to building networks.

<sup>KJV</sup> **Matthew 9:1-35**

How did Jesus reach people?

**I**

A Day in the Life of Jesus!

Jesus went where different people were!

**Matthew 9** relates to 17 different people or groups in one day.

9:2 The paralytic

9:2 Friends of the paralytic

9:3-8 Scribes

9:9 Matthew

9:10 Tax collectors, sinners, disciples

9:11-13 Pharisees

9:14-17 Disciples of John

9:18-19 Rulers

9:20-23 A woman with the issue of blood

9:23-25 Flute players, large crowds

9:25 A sick girl

9:27-31 Two blind men

9:32-33 Mute and demon-possessed, multitude

## **II**

How did Jesus relate and connect to people?

Jesus went where people were **hurting**. Matthew 9:1-2

Jesus was willing to be **interrupted**. Matthew 9:22 and 9:32

Jesus encouraged others to get **involved** and help. Matthew 9:9

Jesus inspired **hope**. Matthew 9:18

Jesus was not locked into a style. Matthew 9:3-6

### III

Jesus kept reaching and going!

<sup>NKJ</sup> **Matthew 9:35** Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. Matthew 10:1

#### Healing

2323 therapeuo {ther-ap-yoo'-o} Meaning: 1) to serve, do service 2) to heal, cure, restore to health Origin: from the same as 2324; TDNT - 3:128,331; vUsage: AV - heal 38, cure 5, worship 1; 44

Health gives the whole notion of wholeness and the absence of any disorder.

#### Sickness

3554 nosos {nos'-os} Meaning: 1) disease, sickness Origin: of uncertain affinity; TDNT - 4:1091,655; n f Usage: AV - disease 6, sickness 5, infirmity 1; 12

A sickness is any disorder.

Sickness is an unsound or weakened condition.

#### Disease

3119 malakia {mal-ak-ee'-ah} Meaning: 1) softness 2) in the NT infirmity, debility, bodily weakness, sickness Origin: from 3120; TDNT - 4:1091,655; n f Usage: AV - disease 3; 3

The word is from the root 3120.

3120 malakos {mal-ak-os'} Meaning: 1) soft, soft to the touch 2) metaph. in a bad sense 2a) **effeminate** 2a1) of a catamite 2a2) of a **boy** kept for homosexual relations with a man 2a3) of a male who **submits** his body to unnatural lewdness 2a4) of a male prostitute Origin: of uncertain affinity; adj Usage: AV - soft 3, effeminate 1; 4

The word effeminate means having feminine qualities untypical of a man: not manly in appearance or manner.

The word catamite means a boy kept by a pederast.

A pederast is a lover of boys. *A pederast is one that practices anal intercourse, especially with a boy.*

Human trafficking is **not new**!

Victimizing young boys was a common practice by the **oppressors**.

This activity must be **abnormal** and unnatural because Jesus corrected it.

This activity must be a **disorder** because Jesus cured it.

This activity must be **harmful** because Jesus cured the victims.

Book reference: *David Ehrlichman* is the author of Impact Networks: Create Connection, Spark Collaboration

*Rhema Christian Center  
Bishop La Fayette Scales  
Saturday & Sunday, March 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
9:30 a.m.*