

# The INVITE Strategy



Week Four: Involve THEM with your Church Family

1 Corinthians 14:24-25 (LB)

“If some people who are not Christians come to your church meeting while all the people are speaking in special sounds, they will think you are crazy. But if a man who is not a Christian comes to your church meeting while you are all speaking God's Word, he will understand that he is a sinner by what he hears. He will know he is guilty. The secrets of his heart will be brought into the open. He will get on his knees and worship God. He will say, ‘For sure, God is here with you!’”

## Three Principles

E\_\_\_\_\_ seekers to attend worship services.

Be s\_\_\_\_\_ to seekers who attend worship services.

When we worship God in a way that seekers can understand, \_\_\_\_\_!



Today is the fourth week in our study through the “INVITE Strategy.” We’re learning how to connect with others so they might connect with Jesus. Complete these blanks:

I \_\_\_\_\_ your THEMs

N \_\_\_\_\_ a relationship with THEM

V \_\_\_\_\_ their spiritual condition

I \_\_\_\_\_ THEM with your church family

**Tell** THEM your story

**Encourage** THEM to cross the line of faith

Today we’ll focus on the fourth step.

Make a list of at least five things a nonbeliever would have learned about Christianity from attending today’s service. To make this list, review the order of service from today’s bulletin and think about the truths we sang in songs, prayed in prayers, and learned in the sermon.

In 1 Corinthians 14, the Apostle Paul assumed that nonbelievers would attend the worship services of their Christian friends and relatives. Why do some Christians assume that Sunday worship and Bible study is not a place to invite their nonbelieving friends and relatives?

Read 1 Corinthians 14:23-25.

Pastor Tom pointed out three principles from these verses. Use your sermon notes to complete these three principles as we come to them below.

**First: E \_\_\_\_\_ seekers to attend worship services.**

What assumptions and prejudices about Christians keep nonbelievers from considering the gospel?

Why does involving nonbelievers with your church family help break down those prejudices and assumptions?

Explain why you agree or disagree with this statement: “Inviting nonbelievers to church activities should be a *tool* in your personal evangelism efforts, but it can never become a *replacement* for your personal evangelism efforts.”

**Second: Be s\_\_\_\_\_ to seekers  
who attend worship services.**

1 Corinthians 14 is a complicated passage about the phenomenon of “speaking in tongues.” To keep things simple today, our focus is on verses 23-25. In these verses, the Apostle Paul explains that speaking God’s Word in a way that others can understand has great value for the nonbeliever who happens to attend a worship service. Paul was commanding them to worship in such a way that nonbelievers could better understand Christian truth.

Churches that have a heart for “seekers” are sometimes accused of watering down the truth in order to attract them. In 1 Corinthians 14, Paul’s heart for nonbelievers did not result in watering down the truth. Answer these questions:

- ❖ Why is it hard to be a church that is welcoming to seekers and biblically faithful at the same time?
- ❖ What are some things a church can do to be welcoming to seekers and biblically faithful at the same time?

**Third: When we worship God in a way that seekers can understand, \_\_\_\_\_!**

In 1 Corinthians 14:23-25, Paul was confident that when Christians worshipped in ways that nonbelievers could understand, hearts would be changed. In Psalm 40, King David expected the same thing. Read Psalm 40:3 and answer the following questions:

- ❖ What words and phrases describe the poet worshipping?
- ❖ What words and phrases describe how people *react* to that kind of worship?
- ❖ Think about the way you worship: Would a nonbeliever want to “put their trust in God” in response to watching the way you express your trust in God?



Close with praise reports and prayer requests