



# Caring for God's People

Timothy Leadership Training Institute  
[www.tlti.org](http://www.tlti.org)

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## Introduction

Welcome to TLT! As you begin training with this first in a series of 7 manuals, you join a network of trainees and trainers from around the world. (Learn more at [www.tlti.org](http://www.tlti.org))

Through the manual Caring for God's People you will develop your ability to interact with others on issues related to Christian faith and life.

Throughout Church history, personal conversations on matters related to faith were regularly initiated and conducted by pastors and other designated church leaders. These conversations often took place in the homes of those visited. Today *home visitation* is still a common worldwide practice.

At the same time, Scripture teaches that *all* mature Christians are called by God to care for others. Care for others begins by showing interest in them, taking the time to listen and understand them and then responding with respect and in Christ's love. These conversations can take place during a home visit, but also in a variety of other contexts like in a coffee shop or during a walk in the park.

Whether you are a pastor, someone mandated by your church to visit others or just an "ordinary Christian", this manual will provide encouragement and guidance as you respond to God's call to care for others.

Working through the manual, you will:

- Interact with Scripture and your co-trainees to better appreciate how God cares for us and our calling to do the same.
- Write, review and begin to accomplish Kingdom oriented action plans.
- Facilitate a TLT lesson and receive feedback about this experience.
- Evaluate and enhance your active listening skills.
- Consider ways to engage in a ministry of *comfort, guidance, healing and reconciliation* with those around you, including your family.
- Identify those in your church who you could train for this same ministry.

As you work through the manual you may find that many of the ideas presented are already familiar. If this is the case, think of others who you may train using the same manual in your own local church or elsewhere. Whether you are a pastor, evangelist or lay leader, this manual will provide you with a tool to train others on many different levels: parents, Sunday school teachers, youth group leaders, elders and deacons. In your group, discuss how God may be preparing you to train others, even those from other churches or from outside your area.

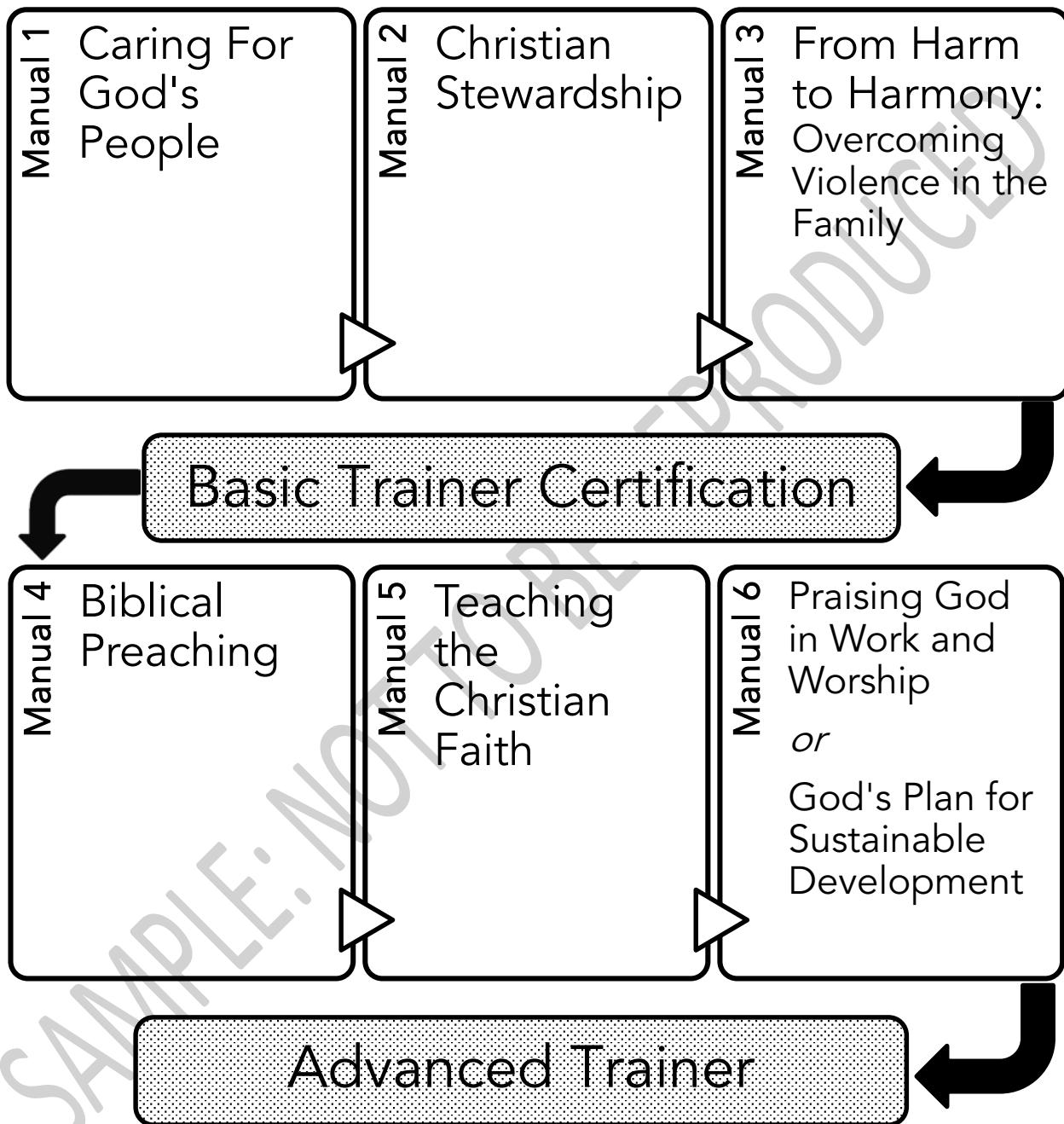
As you engage in this training, we pray that it will open doors for growth and renewal—for you personally and for those you serve.

We welcome you on the journey.



## Timothy Leadership Training Certification

This is the path for Basic and Advanced Trainer certification by Timothy Leadership Training Institute.



\*Note: to receive an official TLTI certificate you must be trained by a TLTI certified trainer following standard guidelines. Trainers report trainings and request certificates through reporting@tlti.org.



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## Participant Testimonies

The following testimonies come from participants around the world. More such testimonies are available on the Timothy Leadership Training website.

### ASIA

#### **Philippines**

After visiting an outlying tribal area, eighteen people began to worship together. They say, "We are so glad that Christians visited us and brought us the Word of God."

#### **Bangladesh**

I visited four young people and talked to them about the dangers of drinking. One of them has given up alcohol and is now actively involved in the Church.

### AFRICA

#### **Congo**

Through the training, we learned to show generosity to the needy, particularly to widows, including those who are not members of our church.

#### **Cameroon**

The students in our Bible school learned to listen attentively to those they visited. During their field work, they taught church members what they had learned. As a result, many churches experienced reconciliation and growth.

#### **Guinea**

In our church, we learned to share our food, our clothes and our money with those in need. And we are learning to be more generous and tolerant of those who don't always share our opinions.

### AMERICAS

#### **Dominican Republic**

One person visited was a prostitute who received Christ during the visit. Her testimony and new life have made a great impact on our town.

#### **El Salvador**

Since regular visitation started through TLT, our church membership has grown by 30% and many new church members are engaged in significant ministry in the church.

#### **United States**

I enlisted 9 retirees to train for visitation through my adult education class. I told my trainees to not just visit socially but to leave those they visited with something to think about and give them purpose. Over 3 months my trainees have made over 50 calls, sometimes alone, sometimes with grandkids or in pairs.



## Reminder to TLT Trainers

### Lesson Procedure

TLT lessons follow 4 steps:

- 1) **Report** - At the beginning of each lesson (except for the 1<sup>st</sup> lesson) each participant presents the report of what was accomplished since the last lesson.
- 2) **Reflect, discover, and discuss** - Then, participants read Scripture and discuss together the related questions. It is often helpful to read the Bible texts in their context. Group discussion trains participants to listen carefully to each other and to present their ideas clearly.
- 3) **Plan** - Participants write a plan to put into practice what they have learned. They report on that plan at the beginning of the following lesson.
- 4) **Pray** - At the end of each lesson, participants commit their plans to God.

*TLT training is for those who are prepared to make plans, to put their plans into action between the lessons, and then report on them during the next lesson. Most TLT learning takes place between the lessons as participants work their plans.*

### Inductive training

TLT training is not like classroom teaching when the teacher stands up in front of the class and talks while students listen and take notes. TLT training is interactive and *inductive*. *Inductive* means that during a lesson participants talk more than the trainer. An inductive trainer asks good questions and then gives participants time to reflect and discuss. A TLT trainer is like a good mathematics teacher who gives the class a problem to solve ... and then leaves the students **time to reflect** to find the answer instead of just giving them the solution!

Participants in TLT training discover new ideas and practices through their **own** reflection and discussion. And then they use what is learned to formulate and accomplish their **own** action plans for Kingdom change.

When you begin TLT training, you may find it difficult to teach in an inductive way. You may be talking more than other participants during a lesson. In that case, you must work to develop a more *inductive* style. It is often helpful to break into smaller groups so that each participant can reflect and discuss what is being learned.

A good trainer has already put into practice what is taught in the manuals and can tell how TLT brings change in the church and community. Good trainers also show that each participant is a valued member of the group and provide individual encouragement and assistance, even between training sessions.

**Reminder:** The last two lessons, the 4-6 Month Action Plan and its Report, are very important and should not be skipped!



## LESSON 1

### Great Things with God

#### 1. Psalm 68:35, Acts 1:8

*What are God's people given?*

When God shows power through believers, **change** happens.

*Think of the changes that took place:*

- *when Moses led Israel out of Egypt. Exodus 19:4-6*
- *when David conquered Goliath. 1 Samuel 17:50-51*
- *because Rahab hid the spies. Joshua 2:6, James 2:25*
- *in Zacchaeus' life and in the city of Jericho. Luke 19:8-9*

#### 2. John 1:11-12

*What happened when Jesus was sent into the world through God's power?*

Sometimes people resist God's change because they are comfortable the way they are and with the way things are. Others may simply be apprehensive of change.

*Give examples of people who resisted change because they were too comfortable with the way things already were or were fearful of change for some other reason.*

*Can someone share an experience of learning something difficult? Was it sometimes discouraging?*

#### 3. God will bring *Kingdom Change* in our churches and communities as we continually **learn** to honor and serve our Lord. Kingdom changes are those that promote the coming of the Kingdom, as we pray in **Matthew 6:10**.

Learning for *Kingdom Change* takes four steps:

##### 1) Reflect and discuss

TLT teaches how the Bible relates to our life and work. But it is not like learning in a classroom where the teacher does most of the talking! In each lesson, we need to engage in careful **reflection** and **discussion** in order to answer the main question:  
*"How can this Bible teaching bring change in my church or neighborhood through the Holy Spirit?"*

##### 2) Plan and pray for change - Luke 14:28, Ephesians 1:11

*Does God want us to make plans?*

At the end of each lesson, we discuss and answer these two questions:

1) *"What have I learned from this lesson about Kingdom changes that God wants for my family, my church or my neighborhood?"*

2) *"What will I do through God's Spirit before the next lesson to make that happen?"*

These two questions make up what is called a "TLT Action Plan." Your group leader will assist you in learning to make good Action Plans.



### 3) Work your plan - Matthew 7:26, James 1:22-25

*What did Jesus say about those who do not practice what they learn?*

*What did James say?*

During the period between each teaching session we put our plans into practice.

***If you do not make Action Plans and work your plans between teaching sessions, it is better not to follow TLT training. You will become discouraged by not seeing change and you will discourage the others in your TLT learning group.***

### 4) Report - Acts 14:26-27

*What did Paul and Barnabas do at the end of their first missionary journey?*

At the start of the lesson, everyone in the training group will take a turn sharing whether their plan was accomplished since the last lesson. They should also share the changes it brought in their church, community, or neighborhood. Sometimes a plan will not be accomplished. In that case, the group together identifies the obstacles which prevented it from being achieved. The group can then discuss ways to overcome those obstacles during the next week.

## 4. Philippians 1:6, 2 Corinthians 12:9-10

We are confident that God will bring wonderful changes to your church and to your community or neighborhood through this training. Like Jesus and all leaders in history, we face obstacles. But in spite of all these obstacles, God's power, made perfect in weakness, is even greater.

## 5. MY PLAN

**Goal for Kingdom Change:** Write down something that should be changed in your family, church, or neighborhood in the next months.

For example:

- We will show more consideration and respect for each other in our family, *or*
- Three people will volunteer for service in our church, *or*
- Seven homes in our neighborhood will begin garbage segregation.

**Activity:** Write down something specific that you will do before the next lesson to help bring about that change.

For example, in relation to the three Kingdom Changes noted above:

- I will express my respect and appreciation for a member of my family in a special way, *or*
- I will speak with one of my church leaders about this vision for change, *or*
- I will buy three garbage receptacles for each of the seven homes and offer them to each family for half price.

Finally, write down **when** you will accomplish this activity (before the next lesson).

## 6. At the end of the lesson, share your plan with another person and pray together.



## LESSON 2

### The Person Who Cares

#### 1. MY PLAN Reports (can be done in small groups or in the larger group)

- Did you accomplish the activity planned during Lesson 1?
- Did you encounter any obstacles which prevented you from accomplishing it? If so, how can you overcome those obstacles, by God's grace, before Lesson 3?
- Did the change you expected and prayed for happen? How do you know?
- Did anything unexpected happen?

#### 2. Pastors and other church leaders, men and women, are called to care for God's people. The Bible teaches that they are to be shepherds, like God. **1 Peter 5:2**

**God, our shepherd - Psalm 23:1, Isaiah 40:11** (see also: Psalm 79:13, Ezekiel 34:11-16)  
*What is the work of a shepherd?*

#### 3. Jesus, the good shepherd - John 10:14-15

The word *pastor* means *shepherd*. Pastors and other church leaders do *God's* work. Through them the Holy Spirit comforts and guides God's people. Being a church leader is not a small task.

*Why is Jesus called the good shepherd in these verses?*

#### 4. Knowing and being known - John 10:2-4, 14, 16

**Knowing the sheep by name.** This means that the shepherd shows *real* interest in the sheep. Good shepherds know the joys and the problems of those they comfort and guide. Getting to know someone takes time!

*Do you know a pastor or another church leader who really knows his/her church members?*

**"They know his voice."** The sheep must know the shepherd. They must know what kind of person their shepherd is in order to follow him/her with confidence.

*Why do the sheep have confidence in their shepherd (John 10:11-13)?*

**"He enters through the gate."** Good shepherds do not sneak into the sheep pen. This means that both God and the church have called them to be a pastor or leader. They do not just declare themselves pastor or leader! The church calls them and trains them. After that, they can care for God's people.

*How does a pastor get to know God's people?*

*How do God's people get to know their pastor or leader?*

*Do Christians stay in a church where they don't know their pastor?*

#### 5. Loving – 1 Corinthians 13:13

**A good leader loves the flock.** Christians experience God's love when their leader loves them. If not, the leader's ministry will be empty.

*What happens when a leader really loves God's people? Does anyone have a personal story about this?*



**A good shepherd loves the weak sheep – Isaiah 40:11**  
*How do good leaders show that they love those who are weak?*

**A good shepherd shows compassion to those who are sad, sick and who have sinned – Matthew 20:29-34, Luke 7:11-15, 36-50**

To have compassion is to feel something strongly. It means we care so much about someone that we feel it in our insides. We say that our stomach is tied up into knots.  
*Can you remember when someone showed compassion to you?*

An elder once told me, “I have a *good* pastor.” I asked him, “How do you know?” He answered, “Because he is not a big man. He cares for us.” *What did he mean?*

#### **6. Taking initiative – Luke 15:1-7, 1 John 4:10** (see also: Psalm 23, 1 John 4:19)

Good shepherds do not wait for the sheep to come to them. They go to them even before they are called. A good shepherd shows love for them even when they don’t want his or her love.

*Why is it important for the shepherd not to wait for the sheep to come to him or her when they are in need?*

*Why is it sometimes difficult for a pastor to be a good shepherd?*

#### **7. The pastor’s family.** Pastors and other leaders may not neglect their own families because of their ministry. God calls everyone to respect the commandment, “Do all of your work in six days” (Exodus 20:9). Leaders don’t love their family if they don’t have time for their husband or wife and children.

*What happens when pastors or other church leaders do not spend time with their family?*

#### **8. MY PLAN**

**Activity:** Write the name of one person in your church or community who is like a lost sheep with whom you will visit before the next lesson. When will you make that visit? How will you show this person Christ-like compassion?

**Goal for Kingdom Change:** Write one change that you expect to happen, by God’s grace, before the next lesson, because of what you will do.

#### **9. At the end of the lesson, share your plan with another person and pray together.**



## LESSON 3

### Visiting in Christ's Name

#### 1. MY PLAN Reports

- Did you accomplish the activity planned during Lesson 2?
- Did you encounter any obstacles which prevented you from accomplishing it? If so, how can you overcome those obstacles, by God's grace, before Lesson 4?
- Did the change you expected and prayed for happen? How do you know?
- Did anything unexpected happen?

#### 2. God visits - Genesis 1:28-30

God visited Adam and Eve and spoke with them in their home, the Garden of Eden. God knew their needs and entrusted them with important responsibilities.

*Do you know of important people or those in authority that regularly take time to visit ordinary people in their homes?*

**Genesis 3:8-9** After their sin, Adam and Eve didn't want to meet God.

*What did God do?*

**Genesis 3:14-15** God's visit was not very joyful. But, even in judgment, God spoke words of hope.

*What words of hope can you speak to those who don't even want your visit?*

Even though God drove them out of the garden, Adam and Eve were given a place to live, to work, and to multiply.

*What needs of Adam and Eve were met by God during this visit?*

Throughout the Old Testament, God:

- visited Israel
- met with them
- listened to them
- provided for their needs
- gave them a mission
- made them promises.

*Who was visited by God in the Old Testament? Give some examples.*

#### God visited us in Jesus Christ - John 14:16-18

Jesus promised never to leave us alone. *How does God visit us today?*

**God is our great Visitor. Like a good shepherd, God:**

- comes looking for us
- listens to us
- speaks with us and
- cares for us where we are.

*Think about the gods of other religions. What efforts do they make to visit human beings?*



### 3. Jesus' visits

**Luke 19:1-10** *What happened in the family because of Jesus' visit?*

**Matthew 25:31-36** *How will Jesus divide everyone on the judgment day?*

Our visits honor Jesus because he is **present** with the sick, the hungry and the prisoners. He is concerned with their needs.

*Sometimes, after a visit, the visitor will say, “I was certainly blessed just as much as the family I visited.” Why is this so?*

**Matthew 10:40, 2 Corinthians 5:20** *How does the visitor represent Christ?*

### 4. A visitor is like Jesus: *bold to go and meet others*

- Like Jesus, we should **not wait** for others to come to us.
- Like Jesus, we show the **value** of those with whom we visit by going to them, not to be served, but to serve.
- Like Jesus, we **share** their joys and sorrows.

### 5. MY PLAN

**Activity:** Write the names of two people in your church or community who are in need: malnourished, sick, depressed, unemployed, or in prison. Which one will you visit before the next lesson? When? How will this person or family know that you are coming in Christ’s name?

**Goal for Kingdom Change:** Write one change that you expect to happen, by God’s grace, before the next lesson, because of what you will do.

6. At the end of the lesson, share your plan with another person and pray together.



## LESSON 4

### Action Planning for Change

#### 1. MY PLAN Reports

- Did you accomplish the activity planned during Lesson 3?
- Did you encounter any obstacles which prevented you from accomplishing it? If so, how can you overcome those obstacles, by God's grace, before Lesson 5?
- Did the change you expected and prayed for happen? How do you know?
- Did anything unexpected happen?

#### 2. Throughout this manual, we make plans at the end of each lesson.

**Matthew 25:1-13** *Is it important to make plans for the future? Give examples of foolish people who do not make plans and wise people who do.*

#### 3. Good intentions are important. For example, I may have the good intention to visit my church members regularly. *Give examples of other good intentions. What happens to many of our good intentions?*

Action Plans are more than good intentions. They describe:

- 1) **specific Goals for Kingdom Change**
- 2) **specific Activities** we plan to accomplish to achieve those goals

Action Plans help us achieve a goal through what we accomplish. Formulating the **Goal for Kingdom Change** before the **Activities** helps us to be more intentional in ministry planning. We first identify the positive change we would like to see happen in a person, family, church, or community. This becomes our Goal for Kingdom Change. Then we plan the activities we need to do to bring about the change. Of course, both our goal and activities are accomplished by God's grace.

Action Plans can also be developed by identifying **Activities** before **Goals for Kingdom Change**. This is often a helpful approach with Action Plans that have a short time frame. We first identify what activities we are doing or are capable of doing, and then we state what positive change we expect to happen because of these activities. This becomes our Goal for Kingdom Change.

Action planning is a challenge and a discipline! Through this lesson you will develop those skills.

This lesson first presents action plan **activities**, then action plan **goals** and finally **examples** of action plans.

#### ACTIVITIES

#### 4. Specific Activities

Good Action Plans answer five questions:

- 1) **What** exactly will I do?



**2) When** will I do it?

**3) How** will I do it?

For example: I will initiate a personal visit or a meeting with three people next week (**what**). I will meet with one on Wednesday evening and two on Sunday afternoon and evening (**when**). I will listen carefully during each conversation (**how**).

**4)** Is this plan **realistic**? Do I have the time and energy to do this with all the other things I have to do? (Luke 14:28-30)

**5)** Is it **faithful** to God’s will? Will I make these visits just to be with my friends or to serve those in need even if they are not my friends? (Luke 14:12-14)

**5. SMART Activities**

A good Action Plan *activity* is described using the acronym **SMART**.

**Specific:** It describes specifically what I plan to do.

**Measurable:** I will be able to tell whether it was done or not.

**Appropriate:** It is in line with God’s will.

**Realistic:** It takes into account my limitations and availability.

**Time-bound:** It mentions an exact period of time.

*Think about the activity you reported on at the beginning of this lesson. Was it SMART?*

### **GOALS FOR KINGDOM CHANGE**

**6. Specific Goals for Kingdom Change**

Action Plans also include goals for specific Kingdom Change. Specific goals answer the question: “**Why** am I planning to do this activity?”

We can answer this “**Why?**” question in several general ways. For example:

- “I am doing this so that the faith of the people I visit will be strengthened.”
- “I am doing this so that our church will grow.”
- “I am doing this in order to train someone else in visitation ministry.”

These are all good **general** responses to the “**Why?**” question.

Throughout the centuries, good church leaders have also answered the “**Why?**” question in **specific** ways. They have set *specific goals for Kingdom Change* through their ministries. These goals have helped them set priorities and be focused in their prayer and activities.

**Mark 3:13-15** *What was one of Jesus’ goals when he went up on the mountain?*

**Acts 20:27** *What was Paul’s goal for the Ephesian Christians? That they understand and practice the whole \_\_\_\_\_.*

**Acts 20:20** *What were two activities Paul used to meet that goal?*



Jesus and the apostle Paul had **intentional** ministries. They did not do what they did just to get things done, but because they wanted to bring **specific Kingdom Change**. They thought about the future. They imagined how God's Kingdom could advance in the future. Then, with God's power, they acted to make it happen.

## 7. SMART Goals for Kingdom Change

A good Action Plan *goal* is also **SMART**.

**Specific:** It describes specifically the change I expect to happen because of what I do.

**Measurable:** I will be able to tell whether it happened or not.

**Appropriate:** It is in line with God's will.

**Realistic:** It takes into account the limitations and possibilities of God's people.

**Time-bound:** It mentions an exact period of time.

In an Action Plan, the **activity** refers to what **you** will do. The **goal for Kingdom Change** is what you expect to happen in the **church or community**. Both need to be **SMART**. You will find it a rewarding challenge to formulate concise action plans that will enable you, by God's grace, to accomplish an intentional ministry like that of Jesus and the apostle Paul.

Of course, we know that we will never be able to see all the results of our work. Only God knows that!

## 8. Learning to Make Good Action Plans: EXAMPLES

### Example 1

Imagine that your church wants to better comfort those who are suffering.

This is a poorly written activity: "Next year I intend to serve more in my church."

*Why is this a poorly written activity? Why is it not SMART?*

This is a well written activity: "During the next six months, I will initiate a Saturday afternoon personal meeting with one "shut-in" from our church.

*Is this a SMART activity? Could it become even more SMART?*

### Example 2

**Activity:** By the end of next week, I will personally meet with two people who are experiencing difficulty in their lives, one on Wednesday evening and one on Sunday afternoon. During our meeting, I will show God's love by listening to them carefully and patiently and responding appropriately.

**Goal for Kingdom Change:** The people I visit will express their faith in God in some way during our meeting. (For example: they will join in prayer, or they will express gratitude for God's goodness, or the expression on their face will change....)

*Is this a well written action plan? Is it SMART? Give other examples of how those you meet may express their trust and confidence in God in some way during your meeting.*

### Example 3

This is a poorly written goal for kingdom change: "After 6 months of regular visits and meetings with those who occasionally visit our church, our church will grow."

This is a better written goal for kingdom change: "After 6 months of regular visits and meetings with those who occasionally visit our church, two adults will become members."



### Example 4

**Goal for Kingdom Change:** Within the next six months, eight more church members or regular visitors will engage in specific church ministries.

**Activity:** With the elders in our church, we will contact all the members and regular visitors in our church by telephone. When appropriate, we will follow up by face-to-face visit or meeting. We will identify the abilities of those we visit and show how they can be used through specific church ministry.

*Is this a SMART action plan? How could it become even more SMART?*

### Example 5

**Goal for Kingdom change:**

Within the next 6 weeks, a couple in our church experiencing marital conflict will (1) openly acknowledge their problems and (2) plan to meet regularly with a pastor or experienced counselor to overcome their difficulties.

**Activity:**

Before the end of the week, I will meet with the couple to express my love and concern for them and my hope for their marriage. I will listen to them attentively, pray with them and ask if I may return for a follow-up visit.

## 9. MY PLAN

**Activity:** Write the name of a person with whom you will visit before the next lesson. When will you make that visit? How will you show this person Christ-like compassion?

**Goal for Kingdom Change:** Write one change that you expect to happen, by God's grace, before the next lesson, because of what you will do.

**10.** At the end of the lesson, share your plan with another person and pray together.



## LESSON 5

### Crisis Visits

#### 1. MY PLAN Reports

- Did you accomplish the activity planned during Lesson 4?
- Did you encounter any obstacles which prevented you from accomplishing it? If so, how can you overcome those obstacles, by God's grace, before Lesson 6?
- Did the change you expected and prayed for happen? How do you know?
- Did anything unexpected happen?

#### 2. Matthew 25:35-36

Church leaders know that they should make a visit when something serious like sickness, an accident or death has occurred. A good shepherd responds promptly to these events.

Other kinds of crises are not so obvious and church leaders sometimes do not see these needs. For example, when:

- A single family provider loses his or her employment
- A young person is arrested by the police
- Marital separation and/or divorce threaten a couple
- A young person drops out of college
- A child is diagnosed with a disease or learning disability
- A business owner is faced with bankruptcy

*What other crises take place in your church, community or neighborhood?*

#### 3. What must good leaders do in a crisis visit? They should pray, of course, and they should bring a message of comfort from Scripture. But they must begin with something else: *listening!*

### THE FIVE STEPS OF GOOD LISTENING

#### 1) Listen to find out and know what happened.

After greeting the family, a good visitor invites them to talk, to tell the story about what happened. **Good visitors stop talking.** They listen attentively, asking good questions to make certain they understand what happened. They listen patiently, taking their time. They know that what is most important is not always said right away. Church leaders from around the world often say that careful, active listening is one of the biggest challenges in their ministry.

Pastor Moses is a wise and experienced pastor from Kenya. He goes with his evangelists when they make pastoral calls. He does this to train them to become good visitors. They have a hard time learning to listen, he says. They often think that their task is only to evangelize. They just think about proclaiming the Gospel. They must also learn to become pastors. Pastor Moses says that they must also learn to make fewer visits in a day. Often it takes time for the whole story to be told. Waiting, listening, asking a few questions and letting different persons tell the story allows the



visitor to know what to pray for and what message of comfort or guidance to give. Sometimes the most important things are not told right away.

*Why is it sometimes hard for church leaders to listen carefully? Give examples from your own experience.*

2) Listen to know how each person reacts to what happened.

A good visitor listens to find out how the crisis affects each person present. Do they react with fear, anger, discouragement and/or doubts?

Think of the six examples above in point 2. *Who are the friends or family members who may be present during a visit and who would be affected by the crisis?*

*Why is it important to listen to the reactions of everyone present?*

A good visitor listens to how each one reacts in order to know how to comfort and guide them and how to pray for them. Just listening to what happened is not enough.

3) Listen so you know how to bring a good word from God.

If we have listened well and know our Bible, we can bring an appropriate word from Scripture. (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

4) Listen so you know how to pray.

If visitors listen well, they will know what to pray about. (James 1:5) They will understand if someone feels that God has abandoned them and their family. They will understand if someone is filled with anger or jealousy. They will understand if someone is tempted to lie, cheat or steal.

5) Listen so you know how the church can support those in need.

Sometimes those we visit have needs that should be shared and borne by the whole church.

*Are you a good listener? Do you sometimes find it difficult to listen?*

#### 4. MY PLAN

**Activity:** Write the names of the people in your church who need a crisis visit. Choose at least one person or family you will visit before the next lesson. When will you make the visit? Follow the **five steps of good listening.**

**Goal for Kingdom Change:** Write one change that you expect to happen, by God's grace, before the next lesson, because of your visit.

#### 5. At the end of the lesson, share your plan with another person and pray together.



## LESSON 6

### Regular Visits

#### 1. MY PLAN Reports

- Did you accomplish the activity planned during Lesson 5?
- Did you encounter any obstacles which prevented you from accomplishing it? If so, how can you overcome those obstacles, by God's grace, before Lesson 7?
- Did the change you expected and prayed for happen? How do you know?
- Did anything unexpected happen?

#### 2. Acts 5:42, Acts 15:36, Acts 20:20

*Who visited church members regularly?*

Regular visits are not made because of a crisis or other special events. They are made *on a planned, regular basis* to all the members and families in the church.

#### 3. Throughout the history of the Christian church, regular pastoral visits have served many purposes:

- **John 10:4-5** When church members know their leaders, they will have confidence in them.
- During regular visits, the Gospel can be presented to family members who still do not know Christ.
- Regular visits provide a chance to teach each family member, to answer their questions, and correct their misunderstandings. Regularly, husbands and wives need a good listening ear and wise counsel about their marriage or about one of their children.  
*What are some of the questions you have been asked by church members?*
- Regular visits are a time to share hidden burdens and sorrows that are forgotten by everyone except those who bear them.  
*Give an example of a hidden burden that can be shared during a visit.*
- **John 10:14** Pastors and church leaders preach more effectively when they know the members of their church.
- They give the leader a chance to express gratitude for the faithfulness of those visited and encourage them in their Christian service.  
*Why is this important?*
- **James 5:19-20** Regular visits give a chance to correct error and bring those who are straying back to the faith.  
*In what ways are Christians in your church tempted to "stray"?*
- **Galatians 6:1-5**  
*How should leaders correct those who stray?*



**4.** Good regular visits encourage church attendance, active participation in ministry, and a growing faith.

Throughout the worldwide TLT network, trainers observe that regular visitation brings renewal to their churches. Creative visitation is practiced, for example, when young people are invited out for coffee or a meal.

My friend John, a pastor in south India, began to make regular visits to every family in his church. Three or four days a week he set out in the morning, going from the homes of one family to the next. He sat with them, listened to them, and ministered to them. In the two years since he began, the church experienced great blessings. Attendance at worship doubled. Baptisms and confirmations increased. Members gave generously to support the ministry of the church. John wrote me recently, “*Teach pastors to make regular visits!*”

*What different groups in your church could benefit from regular, personal attention and care?*

- 5.** Regular visits are often made at the homes of the church members, sometimes in the places where they work. Good leaders will make the effort to visit their members where they are, where they feel at home.
- 6.** Regular visits always involve good listening.
- Visitors ask: *How is it going? How is your family?* Then they listen attentively and patiently.
  - Then they ask: *How will you face the present challenges in your life? How can I, and our church family, be of encouragement and assist you as you face those challenges?*
  - Finally, visitors pray. They bring to God the joys and burdens of the person. They become their intercessor.

Church leaders do **not** meet with others to speak at great length, pray, and then leave. They begin by listening long and well.

- 7.** In groups of 3, discuss these questions: How many families or single members are part of your church or the group in your church for which you are responsible? How often should they receive a visit?

**8. MY PLAN**

**Activity:** Before the next lesson, make two regular (non-crisis) visits to church members or those who do not belong to the church. When will you make these visits?

**Goal for Kingdom Change:** Write one change that you expect to happen, by God’s grace, before the next lesson, because of these visits.

- 9.** At the end of the lesson, share your plan with another person and pray together.



## LESSON 7

### Learning by Example and through the Apprentice Method

#### 1. MY PLAN Reports

- Did you accomplish the activity planned during Lesson 6?
- Did you encounter any obstacles which prevented you from accomplishing it? If so, how can you overcome those obstacles, by God's grace, before Lesson 8?
- Did the change you expected and prayed for happen? How do you know?
- Did anything unexpected happen?

#### 2. Ephesians 4:11-12 *What is the task of Christian leaders as described in verse 12?*

Pastors and other church leaders teach by **example** and through **apprentice learning**.

#### 3. Example

Young children watch and imitate parents and older brothers and sisters. They learn so much through example. Later, it is hard to change what was learned at an early age.

*What are a few things you learned from the example of your parents?*

*Why does Jesus speak so severely in Luke 17:1-2?*

Church members are constantly observing their pastor and other leaders to know how to love their family and how to work.

**1 Corinthians 4:16** *In what ways can church members observe you in your family life and your work to learn from your example?*

#### 4. Apprentice Learning

takes place when an experienced person takes an apprentice (a learner) for assistance and training, for example in cooking, farming, or computers. One of the main ways in which Jesus taught his disciples was through apprentice learning.

*Give examples of apprentice learning in your community.*

These are the four steps of apprentice learning:

- 1) The apprentice carefully observes the trainer do a task.
- 2) The trainer then explains what he/she has just done. The apprentice listens carefully.
- 3) The trainer asks the apprentice to do the task and observes him/her do it.
- 4) The trainer evaluates the apprentice. He/she affirms what was right and corrects what needs to be changed. The apprentice listens carefully.

Then steps one and two are **repeated**, followed by steps three and four. A *good trainer does not skip any steps*. All four steps are repeated until the apprentice does the task well.

*Why is it important to follow **all** the steps instead of skipping some?*

*How do these four steps apply to what Paul writes in 2 Timothy 3:16-17?*



*What are the strengths of the apprentice model?*

*What could be its weaknesses?*

*Think together about how you could train church members to visit and care for others through the apprentice method.*

*What other kinds of training can pastors or other church leaders provide using the apprentice method?*

## 5. MY PLAN

**Activity 1:** Write the names of people in your church who you could train to make good visits.

**Activity 2:** Write the name of one of these potential trainees. Plan to visit this person within the next month. How will you show him or her Christ's love and in this way show a good example? When will you make this visit?

**Goal for Kingdom Change:** Write one change that you expect to happen, by God's grace, before the next lesson, because of your visit.

6. At the end of the lesson, share your plan with another person and pray together.



## LESSON 8

### Comfort

#### 1. MY PLAN Reports

- Did you accomplish the activity planned during Lesson 7?
- Did you encounter any obstacles which prevented you from accomplishing it? If so, how can you overcome those obstacles, by God's grace, before Lesson 9?
- Did the change you expected and prayed for happen? How do you know?
- Did anything unexpected happen?

#### 2. What are other words for "comfort" and "show compassion"?

Luke 10:33-35 *How did the Samaritan show compassion?*

#### 3. God comforts - Psalm 71:20-21, Isaiah 12:1, Isaiah 51:12, Revelation 21:3-4

*If you are familiar with a non-Christian religion, reflect together on this question: How does the compassion shown by the god of that religion compare with the compassion shown by our triune God: the Father, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit?*

#### 4. We are called to comfort in God's name - 2 Corinthians 1:3-7, 1 Thessalonians 2:11-12, Galatians 6:2, Romans 12:15 (see also: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18)

*Make a list of situations when comfort is necessary.*

#### 5. What do we do when we comfort?

*Make a list of the ways we can comfort others.*

#### 6. Jesus' example - Matthew 9:36, Matthew 14:14, Mark 8:2, Luke 15:20

*Jesus' comfort comes from his compassion.*

*Why do we need compassion in order to comfort suffering people?*

#### 7. What is our message of comfort?

##### God:

- is with us and will not abandon us. **Psalm 23:4**
- cares about our suffering. **Psalm 103:13-14**
- hears and answers our prayers. **Matthew 7:11**
- will not allow us to be tempted beyond our strength. **1 Corinthians 10:13**
- controls what happens to us. **Romans 8:38-39**
- uses our suffering for our good and for the good of others. **2 Corinthians 4:15-18**
- will return to wipe away all our tears. **Revelation 21:1-4**

*Can you add other texts from the Bible to this list?*



## **8. How do we communicate compassion and comfort?**

Like all visits, comforting begins by good **listening**. What has happened? How have the events affected those we visit? (remember Lesson 5)

We share their suffering and tell them so. For example, “How painful this must be for you!” Sometimes we share suffering by a gesture or an act of kindness.

*Give examples of how we may share the suffering of others.*

Next, we **read or quote appropriate Scripture passages**.

Finally, we **pray**.

## **9. Churches are places of comfort** when the members are truly sisters and brothers in Christ. When someone suffers, others have compassion and they comfort that person.

*Who in your church recently received much comfort after a great loss?*

*Think of someone else who suffered and received little comfort.*

*Why do we tend to comfort some people more than others? What can a leader do to change this?*

## **10. MY PLAN**

**Activity 1:** Write the names of those in your church and community who are in need of comfort. Then review your plan from lesson 7 and write the names of those who you may be able to train to bring comfort to others.

**Activity 2:** Alone or with someone else, visit two people or families who need comfort. How do you plan to bring Christ’s comfort to them? When will you make those visits before the next lesson?

**Goal for Kingdom Change:** Write one change that you expect to happen, by God’s grace, before the next lesson, because of your visits.

## **11. At the end of the lesson, share your plan with another person and pray together.**



## LESSON 9

### Guidance

#### 1. MY PLAN Reports

- Did you accomplish the activity planned during Lesson 8?
- Did you encounter any obstacles which prevented you from accomplishing it? If so, how can you overcome those obstacles, by God's grace, before Lesson 10?
- Did the change you expected and prayed for happen? How do you know?
- Did anything unexpected happen?

#### 2. What are other words for "guidance" and "counsel?"

#### 3. God is our Guide and makes us wise - Psalms 32:8, 73:24, Isaiah 28:29, John 16:13, James 1:5

*How does God make us wise?*

#### 4. God calls us to be good guides - Proverbs 4:1, 2; 12:15; 19:20; Acts 8:30-31, 35

*Have you known wise people? Give some examples.*

#### 5. How do we become wise?

- By respecting God's will. **Psalm 111:10**
- By knowing God's Word. **Psalm 119:105**
- Through prayer. **James 1:5**
- Wise people learn from others. **Proverbs 13:10**
- Experience also brings wisdom if we learn from our errors. *Share an experience in which you learned from an error.*

#### 6. Biblical wisdom. Wise Christians reflect on what the Bible teaches and then put into practice what they have learned.

*Read the following Scripture texts and reflect on them. Give concrete examples of how you could apply each one in your church.*

- **James 1:27**
- **Colossians 3:12-14**
- **1 Thessalonians 5:14-15**

#### 7. Giving guidance. Good guidance often follows these four steps:

- 1) Know the **question**. What *exactly* is the person asking?
- 2) Know the **person**. Why is *this* person asking *this* question?
- 3) Know the **situation**. What is the *history* of this problem?
- 4) **Share biblical wisdom**. What does *Scripture* say about this question?

Good counselors are not in a hurry. They think prayerfully about what they hear and **ask good questions** to better understand.

They explore with the person the different options he or she faces and encourage them to make responsible choices.



They share biblical wisdom clearly, showing through Scripture that this is the way to true happiness. They will also explain why other solutions, that do not follow biblical wisdom, do not lead to true happiness.

## EXAMPLES

A high school senior tells you that he wonders whether he should continue studying at a college or university.

*What are the questions you would ask in order to give him wise guidance?*

A young woman tells you that she is considering engagement and marriage to a young man who is not a Christian believer.

*What are the questions you would ask her in order to give her wise guidance?*

*What are some of the other issues facing people in your church that call for careful listening and wise guidance?*

8. **Sometimes we are unable to give wise guidance immediately** - We do not have wisdom about every kind of situation. A wise person knows this and will ask the advice of others.

### Proverbs 11:14

If you cannot offer wise guidance, be patient. Tell the person you will pray about it and offer more guidance later.

9. **MY PLAN**

**Activity 1:** Write the names of people in your church and community who are particularly in need of good guidance. Write the names of people in your church who are able to give good guidance.

**Activity 2:** Before the next lesson, visit two people or families who seem to be particularly in need of good guidance. Follow the four steps of good guidance. What good questions will you ask those you visit?

**Goal for Kingdom Change:** Write one change that you expect to happen, by God's grace, before the next lesson, because of your visits.

10. At the end of the lesson, share your plan with another person and pray together.



## LESSON 10

### Healing

#### 1. MY PLAN Reports

- Did you accomplish the activity planned during Lesson 9?
- Did you encounter any obstacles which prevented you from accomplishing it? If so, how can you overcome those obstacles, by God's grace, before Lesson 11?
- Did the change you expected and prayed for happen? How do you know?
- Did anything unexpected happen?

### GOD HEALS

#### 2. God created life and values it. God restores life by healing - Genesis 20:17; Exodus 15:26; Psalm 30:2, 103:2-3

*Why does God heal?*

#### 3. Jesus healed many people - Luke 4:18-19, 7:21-22

*How did Jesus' healing ministry show that he was the Messiah?*

#### 4. Healing was part of the ministry of the early church - Acts 3:16, 5:16

#### 5. The Lord calls the church to a healing ministry - James 5:14-16, 1 Corinthians 12:7, 9

*Does God heal every time we pray with faith to be healed?*

#### 6. Healing in church history. The first church buildings were often places to care for the sick. Later, Christians built hospitals. In many countries, these hospitals have been taken over by the state. Some churches appoint deacons to care for the sick.

*How can your church show support for hospitals and clinics in your area?*

#### 7. Biblical Principles

- Since our childhood, God has healed us many times. We can all give testimony to God's healing in our lives.
- God does not promise to heal us every time we get sick. **2 Corinthians 12:7-10**  
*Why didn't God heal Paul? Was it because Paul didn't have enough faith?*
- God uses many different methods to heal. For example, both prayer and medicine. *Give an example of someone healed through both prayer and medical help.*
- The ministry of healing should include the proclamation that Jesus heals and saves from sin. **Luke 9:6, James 5:14-16**
- Healing and good health are not necessarily signs of God's blessing. **Deuteronomy 32:15, 2 Thessalonians 2:9, Revelation 13:3**  
*Are Christians sometimes tempted to go to non-Christian healers?*



- It is more important to do God's will than to heal or be healed. **Matthew 7:21-23**
- Our inner person can be renewed even when our body gets sick. **2 Corinthians 4:16-18**  
*Do you know a Christian whose body is very weak but whose inner person is strong? In what way does this glorify God?*
- Christians do not need to fear death. **Psalm 73:23, 24; Romans 8:38, 39**  
*How can you comfort a Christian who is facing death? Philippians 1:23, Revelation 21:1-4*
- God is honored by those who take care of their bodies so they don't get sick. **1 Corinthians 6:19-20**  
*What can we do to prevent sickness?*

#### 8. Christian ministry to the sick should be practiced with:

- **Faith** The faith of the sick person (**Matthew 9:22, Luke 18:42**), friends (**Mark 2:1-5**), and church leaders (**James 5:15**).
- **Prayer (Acts 28:8, James 5:14)**  
Sometimes prayer is accompanied by laying on of hands (**Mark 6:5, Acts 28:8**) and anointing with oil, signifying the Holy Spirit's presence (**1 Samuel 16:13, Isaiah 61:1**). In Bible times, oil was sometimes used as medicine (**Isaiah 1:6, Luke 10:34**).

#### 9. MY PLAN

**Activity 1:** Write the names of people in your church and community who need healing. Write the names of people in your church who can visit the sick.

**Activity 2:** Before the next lesson, visit two people who are sick. During your visits, practice the biblical principles found in this lesson and the **five steps of good listening** (Lesson 5).

**Goal for Kingdom Change:** Write one change that you expect to happen, by God's grace, before the next lesson, because of your visits.

**10.** At the end of the lesson, share your plan with another person and pray together.



## LESSON 11

### Reconciliation

#### 1. MY PLAN Reports

- Did you accomplish the activity planned during Lesson 10?
- Did you encounter any obstacles which prevented you from accomplishing it? If so, how can you overcome those obstacles, by God's grace, before Lesson 12?
- Did the change you expected and prayed for happen? How do you know?
- Did anything unexpected happen?

#### 2. Through Christ, we are reconciled with God. God also gives us the ministry of reconciliation - 2 Corinthians 5:17-20.

*What changes take place when we are reconciled with God?*

*What are other words for "reconciliation"?*

*Give some examples of reconciliation in your family, church or country.*

#### 3. Reconciliation between Christians is very important - Matthew 5:23-24, Matthew 18:15-20.

Jesus never allows us to say, "It is my brother or sister who must come to me for reconciliation." It is always our responsibility to take the first step.

*Why is it hard to take the first step to seek reconciliation with someone whom we have offended or who has offended us?*

*Do you know church members who are not reconciled with each other?*

#### 4. The Way of Reconciliation:

1) **Confrontation.** When we sin, we can be confronted with our own conscience or by a sister or brother. **Luke 17:3-4, 2 Timothy 4:2, Galatians 6:1**  
*Who in the Bible needed to be confronted by someone else?*

2) **Remorse.** Feeling sorry for what we have done. **2 Corinthians 7:8-10**  
*Can someone share an experience of feeling remorse?*

3) **Repentance.** Turning away from sin to do what is right. **Ezekiel 18:30-32, Matthew 3:1-2, Acts 26:20, Revelation 2:5**  
*How can you tell if repentance is real?*

4) **Confession.** Confessing sin is **saying** what we have done wrong. We tell the person whom we wronged what we have done and we express our regret for it. **James 5:16, 1 John 1:9-10**



- 5) **Forgiveness**. To forgive is to be like God. **Colossians 3:12-13** To forgive means that we no longer hold it against the person who offended us. We don't let the offence trouble our relationship. Refusing to forgive is a very serious sin. **Matthew 6:14-15, 18:21-35**

*Can someone share an experience of forgiveness?*

- 6) **Reunion and celebration**. It is important to celebrate forgiveness and reconciliation, for example, by sharing a meal. **Luke 15:3-10, 32**

*How can you help those who are reconciled to celebrate together?*

- 7) **Restitution**. It is not always possible to repair what we have done wrong. But, God calls us to do everything we can to pay back the harm we have done. **Exodus 22:1, Luke 19:8**

*How can we “repair” a theft? A lie? A harsh word?*

*Which of these steps is most often neglected?*

*Must all seven steps be taken all of the time?*

5. **Misunderstandings and differences of opinion.** Sometimes relationships are broken because of differences of opinion. Scripture speaks about this in passages like **Philippians 4:2; 2 Timothy 2:14; Titus 3:9**

*What can you do to overcome misunderstandings and differences of opinion in your church?*

## 6. MY PLAN

**Activity 1:** Write the names of people in your church or community in need of reconciliation either with God, with yourself or with someone else.

**Activity 2:** Before the next lesson, visit two of them. When will you do this?

**Goal for Kingdom Change:** Write one change that you expect to happen, by God's grace, before the next lesson, because of your visits.

7. At the end of the lesson, share your plan with another person and pray together.



## LESSON 12

### Caring in Time of Crisis

#### 1. MY PLAN Reports

- Did you accomplish the activity planned during Lesson 11?
- Did you encounter any obstacles which prevented you from accomplishing it? If so, how can you overcome those obstacles, by God's grace, before Lesson 13?
- Did the change you expected and prayed for happen? How do you know?
- Did anything unexpected happen?

#### 2. Luke 21:9-12

God's people regularly go through times of great crisis.  
*What crises has your country gone through recently? Think about crises related to the weather, other natural disasters or those that occur for political, economic or military reasons.*

*How do these crises affect your church members? Reflect together on how different people react differently to crisis: some with anger or in anxiety and fear. Others react with confidence and good cheer. Some look for ways to bring assistance to those in need.*

*How can you as a leader prepare God's people to live faithfully in periods of crisis and instability?*

#### 3. During periods of crisis, Christian leaders are called to bring God's comfort, guidance, healing, and reconciliation (Lessons 8-11). As always, they begin by listening attentively to those they meet and visit.

Christian leaders are also called to engage God's people in acts of mercy and assistance.  
*Give examples of how your church can care for others in time of crisis.*

#### 4. MY PLAN

**Activity:** Identify and write down a present or potential crisis in your area. As a Christian leader, what will you do before the next lesson to face this present or potential crisis? When will you do it?

**Goal for Kingdom Change:** Write one change that you expect to happen, by God's grace, before the next lesson, because of what you will do.

#### 5. At the end of the lesson, share your plan with another person and pray together.



## LESSON 13

### **Making a 4-6 Month Action Plan**

- 1. MY PLAN** reports
  - Did you accomplish the activity you planned during Lesson 12?
  - Did the change you expected and prayed for happen? How do you know?
  
- 2. Congratulations!** You have completed a significant part of this TLT training manual. Now, during the next 4-6 months, you will continue to develop the skills you learned by putting them into practice.
  
- 3. Read again together the examples of Action Plans in Lesson 4.**  
*Give another example of a SMART goal for Kingdom Change.*  
*Give another example of a SMART activity.*
  
- 4. Reflect silently on the phrase “May your Kingdom come” in our Lord’s Prayer while thinking about this question:**  
*What Kingdom Change can come to my church and community in the next 4-6 months if what I learned in this manual is put into practice?*
  
- 5. Now, formulate your answer: What SMART Kingdom Change do I expect to happen in 4-6 months, by God’s grace? This is your Goal for Kingdom Change.**

*For example:*

- A married couple in conflict was reconciled and spoke of their reconciliation to others.
- 2 persons or families that stopped attending church now attend regularly.
- 2 non-Christians confessed their faith after regular meetings with one or more church members.
- The visitation team in our church has visited, or met with, half of our church members.

*Think together about other examples of SMART Kingdom Changes.*

A **Kingdom Change** describes what we expect to happen in the church or community because of our activities. Formulating the Kingdom Change before the Activity promotes an intentional ministry and growth in vision and faith as we focus first on what is possible through God’s power and grace.

- 6. Now, answer these 2 questions related to your activities:**
  - 1) *During the next 4-6 months, what will I do so that this Kingdom Change will take place by God’s grace?*
  
  - 2) *Is this activity SMART?*



## 7. Write your 4-6 Month Action Plan

### Steps to follow:

- 1) On a separate sheet of paper, write your SMART Goal for Kingdom Change and SMART Activity.
  - 2) In groups of 3, read aloud your Action Plan so that others can improve it by asking SMART questions. Revise your Action Plan accordingly.
  - 3) Place your revised Action Plan on a table or post it on the wall, so that all participants, guided by the trainer, can read and critique it. If necessary, revise your Action Plan again.
  - 4) Fill out the 4-6 month Action Plan form. Write a second copy of your Action Plan and give it to your trainer.
  - 5) Place all the Action Plans on a table or post them on the wall. Go around the room and **pray** that God would bless each Action Plan.
  - 6) The trainer will indicate a date in 4-6 months for **the last lesson** (4-6 month Action Plan Reports).
8. Back at home, place your copy where you will be reminded of it regularly.



## 4-6 Month Action Plan Form: *Caring*

*See previous page*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Locality of Training \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Goal for Kingdom Change:

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Is this Goal for Kingdom Change *SMART* (Specific, Measureable, Appropriate, Realistic, Time-bound)?

Planned Activity for next 4-6 months:

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Is your planned activity *SMART* (Specific, Measurable, Appropriate, Realistic, Time-bound)?



## Report of 4-6 Month Action Plan: *Caring*

*See next page*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

City and Country \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

What planned activity did you accomplish 4-6 months ago?

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Did you encounter any **obstacles** or **difficulties**? If so, what were they? Did you overcome them? If so, how?

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What **SMART Kingdom Change** happened as a result of your planned activity?

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Did any **unexpected Kingdom Changes** happen? List them below.

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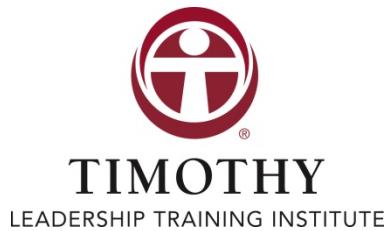


## LESSON 14

### Final Lesson: 4-6 Month Action Plan Reports

Before the group meets for this last lesson, the trainer will make certain that each participant has already filled out the Report of 4-6 Month Action Plan found on the previous page.

1. At the beginning of the session, participants place their Action Plan Report Forms on a table or post them on the wall so that everyone can read them.
2. Then, each participant will make a report (in the large group or in small groups).
  - *Did you accomplish the activity you planned 4-6 months ago?*
  - *Did you encounter any obstacles?*
  - *Were you unable to overcome any of these obstacles?*
  - *How can your group help you overcome these obstacles?*
  - *Did the SMART Kingdom Change you prayed for and expected happen? How do you know?*
  - *Did any unexpected Kingdom Changes happen in your church or community?*
3. Together, take time to praise and thank God for everything accomplished during the past months.
4. With your trainer, make plans to continue training.
5. **Blessing**  
*Go in the grace and power of Christ. It is His Kingdom that you serve!*



## Individual Contact Form

*Congratulations on the completion of your 4-6 Month Action Plan. Please complete this form and turn it in to your trainer along with your 4-6 Month Action Plan Report. We want to keep in touch with you!*

### Module: Caring for God's People

Module Start Date \_\_\_\_\_ Module Completion Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Personal Information

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_\_

Town/City \_\_\_\_\_ Country of Origin \_\_\_\_\_

Country of Residence \_\_\_\_\_ Phone 1 \_\_\_\_\_

Phone 2 \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

List Primary Social Media (Facebook/Other) \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Contact Method \_\_\_\_\_

List Languages Spoken \_\_\_\_\_

### Church Information

Local Church or Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Role in Church or Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Denomination \_\_\_\_\_