

What does the Bible tell us about recruiting?

1. Matthew 9:35-38 provides us with much insight concerning recruitment. Jesus, seeing that the multitudes were distressed and downcast, felt compassion for them knowing they were like sheep without a shepherd. He then told His disciples that the fields were ready to harvest, but there were not very many laborers to reap the harvest. Jesus' solution to this dilemma was to call the disciples to pray to the Lord of the harvest that He would send the necessary laborers into His harvest. It is worthy to note that the harvest belongs to the Lord not to us and that the Lord knows full well the lack of laborers. From this passage we learn He wants the responsibility of recruitment given to Him. The Lord knows the need and He is the one who prompts His people to be a part of the harvest labor force.

This passage should cause us to recognize our sovereign God is calling us to pray first and foremost. He is in charge of finding people to be such things as Sunday school teachers, vacation Bible school workers, youth leaders, camp counselors, pastors, missionaries, etc. Our personal and corporate prayers should reflect this ongoing need. We should also not be surprised by a lack of workers for the Lord's harvest. Recruiting people to teach is a faith building time for everyone involved. We all need the grace and strength of the Lord for this task.

2. Psalms 27:13-14 is another Scripture that provides direction to the issue of recruiting. We learn in this passage the importance of waiting on the Lord. Often there are urgent needs for more teachers or leaders in the church. However, the Lord wants us to learn to trust Him as our all sufficient, sovereign God. This is of great comfort for those involved in recruiting. Many a person has experienced anxiety when recruiting and has learned the relief that comes from waiting on the Lord.
3. 2 Timothy 2:2 is the verse where Paul instructs Timothy to entrust the things Timothy has learned from him to other faithful people. These faithful people are to then teach others. The verse has been noted as one of the key verses in the Bible that teaches the principle of multiplication.

Unfortunately, 2 Timothy 2:2 has not been applied to most Christian education ministries. The consequences are usually very predictable. Very few people are trained to teach or lead. Typically, churches do not have people being discipled to replace the existing leaders and teachers, let alone add additional workers to the harvest. Most people assume these responsibilities without being discipled by those whom God has already entrusted much. If those who are already teaching and leading were to make disciples, the additional people added to the harvest would be significant. From this verse we see that recruiting involves biblical discipleship.



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