

April 17, 2016
Next Step Series
Part 2: From the Community to the Crowd
Ted Cunningham

1. Ted said the three ways the Un-churched respond to invitations to church are “I haven’t stepped foot in the church since _____.” “I’m afraid I’d be struck by lightning.” “I don’t want to get yelled at.”

- * Which one gives you a great opportunity and why?
- * What other responses have you heard of?
- * Why do you think people visit a church?
- * Why did you visit Woodland Hills the first time?
- * Why did you return?

2. The reasons given for why church members leave a congregation were “The music is too loud,” “The church is too big,” “They have too much fun.”

- * Besides moving what are other reasons?
- * Have you been to a boring church? Is that reason enough to find another fellowship?
- * Why have you remained part of a congregation that had various problems?

3. Jesus was often surrounded by crowds. He looked at them and had compassion on them because he saw that they were “harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.”

- * In what way has Jesus taken your brokenness and healed it?
- * Do you know someone who reaches out and helps the harassed and helpless?
- * How can we help the harassed and helpless?
- * Do we dare pray that Jesus will show us someone who is harassed and helpless and show us what we can do for a need Jesus would not have passed by?

4. Jesus told interesting and practical stories. What is one of your favorites?

5. Jesus withdrew from the crowd with small groups. How has being in a small group influenced your walk with God?

6. Luke 5:16 says that “Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed.

- * Do you have a place where you can withdraw alone to pray?
- * Have you had a private prayer time in which you felt God revealed himself to you?
- * What has private prayer time enabled you to do?