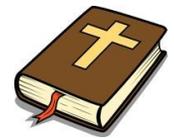


# Who, Me?

The early church grew (Acts 2:41; 5:14; 6:1,7; 9:31; 11:24)! As we read of this growth explosion, we see the key role member involvement played. Christians were spreading the word (8:4), involved in each other's lives and in the lives of



What were the names of the cities Jesus cursed?

Bonus: What other cities did Jesus compare them to and why did He do so?

the lost around them. This is such a simple concept, but churches not practicing it are not growing. Right? What is involved in "involvement?"

**I** - "I" am the heart of involvement. I must resolve to be involved. I must do my part, for I will give an account for my level or lack of involvement (1 Corinthians 3:8).

**N** - "Negativity" is the enemy of involvement. "I can't help." "It won't do any good." Or "I don't like working with that person." Listen closely. Involved Christians should rather say "I can do..." (Philippians 4:13) and "we are well able..." (Numbers 13:30).

**V** - "Visitation" is a part of involvement. Matthew 25:34-46 confirms it. Non-Christian visitors, sick, imprisoned, and needy folks need it. Those who do it are richly rewarded, and those who are recipients of it profoundly appreciate it. It does a body good!

**O** - "Obedience" is the cause of involvement. Faithful Christians believe the commands to make disciples (Matthew 28:19), build up brethren (Romans 14:19), and meet needs (James 1:27).

**L** - "Love" is the motive of involvement. Paul says good deeds, without love, do not profit you and me (1 Corinthians 13:1-3). Scripture counsels, "by love serve one another" (Galatians 5:13).

**V** - "Victory" is the goal of involvement. By being involved, we help others win the victory found IN Christ (James 5:19-20), we help the cause of Christ advance, and we aid our own walk in the light that leads to eternal reward (1 John 1:7).

**E** - "Everybody" is the scope of involvement. What able-bodied Christians is excluded from the work God has given the church? Once, a man did nothing and gave every excuse imaginable. We remember how that turned out (Matthew 25:28-30).

**M** - "More" is the adjective of involvement. That is, "more involved" and "more people involved." Has there ever been a church with too many involved? God's able to do more than we ask or imagine (Ephesians 3:20), and He wants to see us always trying to do more for Him!

**E** - "Evangelism" is the fruit of involvement. Active churches attract the curiosity of the community. Those involved in the church's work naturally grow more spiritual-minded, and by this grow more bold in sharing the gospel.

**N** - "Now" is the time for involvement. What in our lives do we definitely know will change between now and the never-seen tomorrow (Proverbs 27:1)? Let's kill all the excuses! Resurrect the enthusiasm! Start today!

**T** - "Teamwork" is the mindset of involvement. We're to work together.

No one man, no staff, no eldership, no group of deacons or other leaders can or should do the work of an entire congregation. The local church is a family team.

To become adequately involved, let's ask three questions...

"What needs doing in this church?"

"Who needs help in doing it?"

"What can I do?"

Be a child of God who enthusiastically replies in this way today... **"Here am I, send me"** (Isaiah 6:8)!

**To all our visitors:** *Please feel free to participate!*

You should expect to hear singing with voices only, a few "family" announcements, prayers spoken, and see the Lord's Supper offered, then free-willed giving, and gospel preaching from the Bible. Any response is up to you and will be kindly received.

We are glad you decided to worship God with us on this first day of the week!

New Address for Alaina Daniel  
1755 Wyndale Street Apt. 638  
Houston, TX 77030

**Birthday/Anniversary Lunch:** 2nd

Sunday...

**NMCCH:** Spray & Wash and Bar Bath  
Soap (pick up **April 6, 2019**)

**Friday Bible Study:** (1/11) at 7PM.

Romans chapters 1 through 6

**Ladies Bible Class:** resumes

Wednesday (1/16) at 10AM

**Building Relationships Seminar:** at  
Howe, **January 11-13, 2019** (INFO on  
bulletin board)

**VBS Planning Meeting:** Sunday  
(1/27) at 3:30 PM. Have you made  
suggestions?