

# ENGLISH TRAINING FOR MISSION



**reach the unreached.**

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## TRAINING UNIT 14 (1H 17.25 MINUTES)

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*3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> commandment of sending: Seek persons & stay in the houses of peace.....*

1<sup>st</sup> Level: Elements of evangelism for the members of the community of faith .....

2<sup>nd</sup> Level: Evangelism by Evangelists (Acts 8).....

3<sup>rd</sup> Level: Evangelism by sent ones/Apostles .....

Person (man or woman) and a house of peace .....

Examples for people of peace in the New Testament .....

Examples for finding people of peace:.....

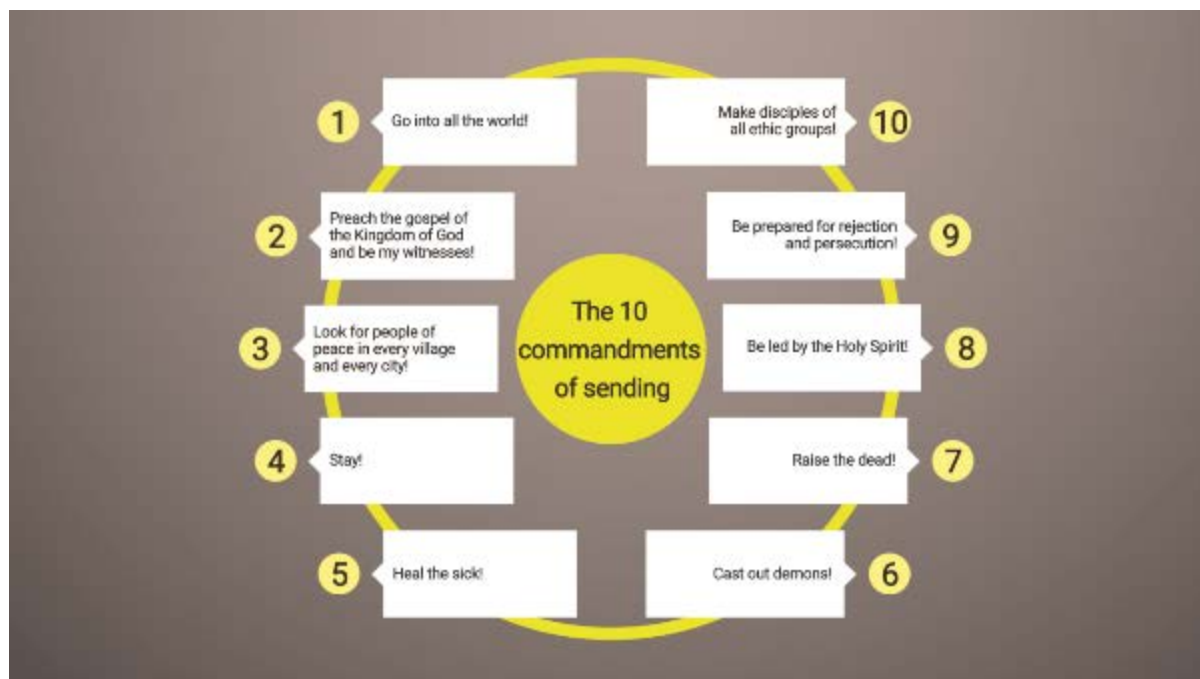
➔ *Part II: Application* .....

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## Training Unit 14

### 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> commandment of sending: Seek persons & houses of peace



**3<sup>rd</sup> Commandment of sending: Seek a person (man OR woman) and a house/group of peace in every village and every city**

**4<sup>th</sup> Commandment of sending: ... in that house/group stay, eat and drink what is given to you**

#### **Matthew 10:11**

*Whatever town or village you enter, search there for some worthy person and stay at their house until you leave.*

#### **Luke 10:5-7**

*"When you enter a house, first say, 'Peace to this house.' If someone who promotes peace is there, your peace will rest on them; if not, it will return to you. Stay there, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his wages. Do not move around from house to house.*



### 1<sup>st</sup> Level: Elements of evangelism for the members of the community of faith

- 1) **Prayer for the harvest (workers)** Acts 1:8
- 2) **Own children** -> Fathers – children Ephesians 6:4
- 3) **Life transformation** -> women - men 1 Peter 3:1
- 4) In the community = **spiritual family** -> the Lord daily added new believers Acts 2:47
- 5) **Relationships** -> Andrew, Peter, Philip, Nathanael ... John 1:35-51
- 6) **Holy Spirit, power** from on high -> you will be **my witnesses**... Acts 1:8
- 7) **Discipleship** movement Acts 8:1 and following
- 8) Whoever **acknowledges me before others**...Matthew 10:32
- 9) Always **be prepared** to give an answer to everyone who asks why you have such a hope within you ...1 Peter 3:15
- 10) Everybody shall **be able to proclaim the Gospel, to give testimony and to lead somebody to Jesus**

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Level: Evangelism by Evangelists (Acts 8)

- 1) **Guidance** of the Holy Spirit (or angels)
- 2) **Christ-centered** proclamation
- 3) **Kingdom of God** proclamation
- 4) **Faith, repentance, baptism, reception/baptism of the Holy Spirit**
- 5) **Deliverances**
- 6) **Healings**

### 7) Joy

8) Within new territory (when it's about planting new communities of faith and not only evangelism) there is a **cooperation between Apostles**

9) The evangelist suddenly «**disappears**».

10) He shall **equip the saints** to the work of (evangelistic) ministry

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Level: Evangelism by sent ones/Apostles

1) **Doesn't know anything but Christ** = Christ-centered (the crucified one) (1 Corinthians 2:2)

2) Cross Culture -> **contextualization** (I have become everything to... 1 Corinthians 9:22)

3) Are always ministering as a **group/team**

4) They always win a new **GROUP** (Acts 10)

5) They don't only want new births but **discipleship** as fruit

6) They start **discipleship movements** (Thessaloniki-Achaia-Macedonia/Ephesus)

7) **Completion of the new birth** (Acts 19:1ff)

8) Brings **NEW** (= Kingdom of God) a) to the old people of God (Synagogues) and b) to the unreached ethnic groups

9) **Demonstration of God's Kingdom with MIRACLES OF BREAKTHROUGH** (e.g. 2 Corinthians 12:12; Acts 2:43; Acts 5:12)

10) Main strategy = **PEOPLE and HOUSES** of peace (Cornelius, Lydia, prison guard)

Because the sent ones generally go the unreached ethnic groups, their evangelism is usually the first one in this «new territory».

Their main goal of evangelism is not only to win new followers of Christ but to plant God's Kingdom sustainably.

And that will only work, if:

- Discipleship ...
- remaining discipleship ...
- self-reproducing discipleship ...
- Discipleship within a community...
- Communities of faith ... are planted.

In order to plant a «Community of Faith» the best way of evangelism is to seek and find a «person» and a «house of peace»!

## Person (man or woman) and a house of peace

### **Matthew 10:11**

*Whatever town or village you enter, search there for some worthy person and stay at their house until you leave.*

**Luke 10:5-7**

*“When you enter a house, first say, ‘Peace to this house.’ If someone who promotes peace is there, your peace will rest on them; if not, it will return to you. Stay there, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his wages. Do not move around from house to house.*

- ➔ Whenever we as sent ones enter a city, a village, **a court yard or a settlement** we shall look out for (= look for, find out about) a person of peace

**Mark 6:56**

*And wherever he went — into villages, towns or countryside — they placed the sick in the marketplaces. They begged him to let them touch even the edge of his cloak, and all who touched it were healed.*

In this request, the PROMISE is already included that wherever (within the cities, villages, court yards) we go, there are people of peace and that we will find them if we look out for them.

- ➔ **That is a matter of faith**

**Matthew 7:7**

*“Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.*

**A «person of peace» («person of honor») is characterized by three things, it's a person who:**

- A) Is honored and respected by others. This person has gathered a group around that respects him/her.
  - B) Is spiritually open «hungry» for the message of God's Kingdom
  - C) Opens his/her house and “Oikos” (= Gr. the extended family and the relationship network in all areas of this person's life - incl. work, spare time, etc.) for the message of God's Kingdom. In such a way this person is generous and shares (invites for meals and drinks) ➔ HOSPITALITY
- Jesus as well as the Apostles (Paul inclusive) ministered with that principle many times
  - If we work according to the principle of the person and the house of peace we win an already existing and organic group connected to each other
  - It is already a community. When Jesus enters this community, it becomes a true «Community of Faith».

- ➔ **This is also very important sociologically!**

if you try to avoid this principle and instead lead single people to Jesus from entirely different families, clans or social networks (from e.g. tribes, religious backgrounds or even castes) with the goal to form a community with these people, it might take a very long time until a true Community of faith is established.

- In communities where familial structures are strong, the person of peace oftentimes is also the head of the family.
- The house of peace is in that case the (extended) family itself!

**Examples for people of peace in the New Testament**

1. **Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10) and his house:**

- And he desired to see Jesus (V3)
- And he received him with great joy. Jesus said: "Today salvation has come to this house" (V6 +10)

## 2. **Cornelius, his house and his friends (Acts 10:1-48):**

- Cornelius was a righteous and God-fearing man with his entire household ... and always prayed to God (V2)
- But Cornelius expected Peter and called all his relatives and his close friends (V 24)
- When Peter entered ... he found a large gathering of people (V27)  
While Peter was still speaking ... the Holy Spirit came on all who were gathered ... then Peter replied ... and instructed to baptize them in the name of Jesus Christ. They asked Peter to stay a few days with them. (V44-48)

## 3. **Lydia and her house (Acts 16:13-15 and 40):**

- A woman who worshiped God named Lydia ... listened; the Lord opened her heart to respond to Paul's message (V14)
- When she and the members of her household were baptized, she invited us to her home. And she persuaded us. (V15)

### **Examples for finding people of peace:**

**Example 1:** Paul and Rita → **Family father**, who came to faith during evangelism, returned home and shared the message with his kids. They started a Community of Faith.

**Example 2:** Marcel → At a public healing event, the Lord gave a prophetic word for a man and for new age friends who wanted to hear the Gospel after this public healing event. So it came that a new Community of Faith within the **family** and within the **new age group** started.

**Example 3:** Philip → Impression during prayer: **village „Reinach“**, where we moved and soon new Communities of Faith were started.

**Example 4:** Andrew → On the way seeking a person of peace: he met a leader of a martial arts group on the streets. This led to a new Community of Faith amongst a group of martial arts men.

**Example 5:** Henok → Prayed for a group and suddenly on his following bicycle tour, an **Ethiopian** man waved who wanted to introduce himself and his friends. They started a new Community of Faith.

**Example 6:** Sené → Through a prophetic word, a **man from Senegal** realized that is not right to have one wife in Senegal and to get married to another one in Switzerland.

**Example 7:** Impression during prayer for a person of peace at the **student apartment** – they asked if they wanted to study the Bible together and because the leader said: «Why not?», a new Community of Faith evolved.

**Example 8:** A **Mafia boss** was asked if he wanted to study the Word of God and he used the coming Mafia cell gathering (where the entire cell gathered) to study the Bible and **Mafia Bible Community** was started.

**Example 9:** Max → Prayed for an apartment block – later, in another city, they met a family that lived in that apartment block. They started a Community of Faith.

**Example 10:** Mahish → While he was building a new house, the Holy Spirit started showing him specific people and their secrets supernaturally. In the **village**, he met these people and a Community of Faith was started.

**Example 11:** A woman who had an encounter with Jesus took her husband and her child and told them about Jesus. Because her husband was an influential guru, an entire group came to Christ.

**Example 12:** A group **published an advertisement** and several groups met and formed as a result.

→ In this house, with this group of peace: **stay, eat and drink what is given to you!**

### **Luke 10:5-7**

*“When you enter a house, first say, ‘Peace to this house.’ If someone who promotes peace is there, your peace will rest on them; if not, it will return to you. Stay there, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his wages. Do not move around from house to house.*

→ The Lord provides us with simple and clear instructions for what to do after we found the person and a house of peace:

- A) **STAY** with the person and the house of peace and don’t move from house to house!
- That sounds as if this would be a secondary fact → BUT that is a **central principle** of apostolic evangelism
  - Jesus focused or limited himself to a group of twelve because he only had the capacity to invest in a group of twelve people
  - If he hadn’t limited himself and focused, the many other disciples that traveled with them might have hindered a solid, deep transformational discipleship of the twelve
  - **Self-limitation** keeps us from shallow discipleship
  - As soon as we’ve found a group of disciples, we must invest in that group and seriously disciple them, instead of going from house to house or from group to group and only discipling them shallowly
- B) We are supposed to stay at the house/with the person of peace, EAT and DRINK what is given to us; it’s a clear order from the Lord Jesus!
- Eating and drinking in community is very useful for evangelism
  - Putting that into practice can sometimes literally lead to horrible stomach or heart aches!
  - There were some crucial questions in the early Church concerning food: are we allowed to eat and drink everything?
  - For example: the meat on the market that was blessed and consecrated for some other gods?

### **1 Corinthians 10:23-31**

*„I have the right to do anything,” you say—but not everything is beneficial. “I have the right to do anything”—but not everything is constructive. No one should seek their own good, but the good of others. Eat anything sold in the meat market without raising questions of conscience, for, “The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it.” If an unbeliever invites you to a meal and*



*you want to go, eat whatever is put before you without raising questions of conscience. But if someone says to you, "This has been offered in sacrifice," then do not eat it, both for the sake of the one who told you and for the sake of conscience. I am referring to the other person's conscience, not yours. For why is my freedom being judged by another's conscience? If I take part in the meal with thankfulness, why am I denounced because of something I thank God for? So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.*

### **1 Corinthians 8:1-10**

*Now about food sacrificed to idols: We know that "We all possess knowledge." But knowledge puffs up while love builds up. Those who think they know something do not yet know as they ought to know. But whoever loves God is known by God. So then, about eating food sacrificed to idols: We know that "An idol is nothing at all in the world" and that "There is no God but one." For even if there are so-called gods, whether in heaven or on earth (as indeed there are many "gods" and many "lords"), yet for us there is but one God, the Father, from whom all things came and for whom we live; and there is but one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom all things came and through whom we live. But not everyone possesses this knowledge. Some people are still so accustomed to idols that when they eat sacrificial food they think of it as having been sacrificed to a god, and since their conscience is weak, it is defiled. But food does not bring us near to God; we are no worse if we do not eat, and no better if we do. Be careful, however, that the exercise of your rights does not become a stumbling block to the weak. For if someone with a weak conscience sees you, with all your knowledge, eating in an idol's temple, won't that person be emboldened to eat what is sacrificed to idols?*

### **Mark 7:15**

*Nothing outside a person can defile them by going into them. Rather, it is what comes out of a person that defiles them.*

### **Mark 16:17-18**

*And these signs will accompany those who believe: In my name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will pick up snakes with their hands; and when they drink deadly poison, it will not hurt them at all; they will place their hands on sick people, and they will get well."*

Within the Torah (the five books of Moses), there are 613 commandments or laws. These commandments can be put into four categories:

- Moral laws (ethical laws, e.g. the 10 commandments)
- Ritual laws (circumcision, laws of purity, dietary laws)
- Ceremonial laws (laws of the temple cult, laws of sacrifice)
- Judicial laws (political and civil life, civil law area)

Now the question is: Which of the commandments are still true for the New Testament and which of the commandments are fulfilled in Jesus Christ and don't have to be exercised anymore?

- This question can only be thoroughly answered by looking at the Bible:
- The book of Hebrews shows us clearly that through «the once and for all sacrifice of Jesus» the ceremonial laws are fulfilled and don't have to be exercised anymore.
- The same is true for the dietary laws (ritual laws) - as shown in the book of Acts 10,10-16.

### **Acts 10:10-16**

*He became hungry and wanted something to eat, and while the meal was being prepared, he fell into a trance. He saw heaven opened and something like a large sheet being let down to earth by its four corners. It contained all kinds of four-footed animals, as well as reptiles and birds. Then a voice told him, "Get up, Peter. Kill and eat." "Surely not, Lord!" Peter replied. "I*

*have never eaten anything impure or unclean.” The voice spoke to him a second time, “Do not call anything impure that God has made clean.” This happened three times, and immediately the sheet was taken back to heaven.*

In different sending regions, people will show us their hospitality and invite us.

They will serve foods and drinks. Among those, there will be certain things we normally don't eat, e.g. pork meat, foods that are consecrated to other gods, foods containing blood (e.g. in Massai tribes) or drinks that are fermented in some way!

➔ Jesus as well as Paul encourage us to great openness towards these things!

But at the same time, the New Testament clearly says that if we feel guilty or somehow uncomfortable we should leave it. At least we are supposed to respect and honor everybody within his/her own frames of conscience.

## Part II: Application

- a) Someone from the group summarizes this teaching in his own words. If anything is missing, the others can add to the summary.

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- b) Group discussion.

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- c) Write down personal revelations from the teaching.

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d) Look for and describe 5 other people (houses) of peace within the New Testament.

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e) Exchange within your group where and how you've found people and houses of peace in your ministry so far.

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f) Discuss the following question with your group: with which strategy can you find people and houses of peace in your surroundings?

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g) Write down where in your neighborhood and surroundings you think you will find people and houses of peace.

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- h) Exchange very practically where you personally set clear limits about food and drinks.

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- i) Each group presents what they found out and learned to the other groups.

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### Part III: Outreach

Regular practice of **GOING** (2-3 times a week, 6-9 hours in total) to the unreached of the ethnic group God put on your heart. This should be accompanied by 2-3 prayer walks (4-6 hours) each week.

1. PRAYER – Prayer walks with the team/a partner ☐
2. GO – (2:2 or as a team) to the unreached God put on your heart ☐
3. FIND people and houses of peace ☐
4. PREACH – the gospel of the Kingdom of God ☐
5. SHARE – the way of salvation ☐
6. EVANGELISTIC DBS with people of peace ☐
7. Share your personal testimony with at least 5 people. ☐
8. CALL to repentance and into FOLLOWING Jesus ☐
9. FAITH, repentance, baptism and receiving the Holy Spirit ☐

**BEsent is a training - without practice it is almost useless!**