



LIFE *On* MISSION

ADVENTIST CHURCH *in Sydney*

The Method

People respond in two different ways when they receive instructions, for example when they get the instruction sheet in a flat-pack from IKEA, or open a box of LEGO, or go on an amazing race. The first type of person carefully reads all of the instructions and follows them step by step. The other type of person ignores the instructions and just figures it out as they go along.

Which type of person are you? What are the advantages and disadvantages to the way that you approach instructions? Has your approach ever led you into some funny or difficult situations?

Digging into the Bible

Christians recognise that Jesus had a divinely inspired message to share the world. Just think of the amazing spiritual message Jesus shared with Nicodemus: “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.” **John 3:16,17**

However, mission experts have identified that Jesus did not just have a divinely inspired **message**. He also had a divinely inspired **method** too. Jesus knows exactly what human nature is like and He knows everything about you personally as well. Because of His understanding, Jesus used a method to reach people which is better than any other strategy.

Read about the method that Jesus used to reach people in **Matthew 4:23-25** and the instructions that He gave His disciples in **Luke 10:1-24**.

1. What are the key steps that Jesus used to reach people?
2. How much of His method did Jesus instruct His disciples to follow? What were the results when they followed His method?
3. How much of Jesus’ method do you follow personally?
4. How much of Jesus’ method does your local church follow?

Adventist Confirmation

Ellen White made an observation that many Adventist church members have found incredibly insightful and useful:

“Christ's method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Saviour mingled with them as someone who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. Then He called them to “Follow Me.”¹

5. Why is Christ’s method the only one that will be truly successful in reaching people?
6. How committed are you to following Jesus’ method?
7. In your everyday life, how are you:
 - a. Mingling with people as someone who desires their good?
 - b. Showing sympathy for them?
 - c. Ministering to their needs?
 - d. Winning their confidence?
 - e. Calling people to follow Jesus?
8. Are there any changes in the way that you live your life so you can follow Jesus’ method more closely?
9. How could you integrate Jesus’ method into your everyday life so you can live a life on mission, rather than just getting involved in mission events once in a while?

Talking with the Master

Spend time praying conversationally as a group. Ask Jesus to help you understand how you can use His method to reach people. Ask Him to give you the courage and commitment to actually follow His method.

¹ Adapted slightly from *The Ministry of Healing*, p143.