

# STEP OF ISSACHAR

## WEEK 9

### ISSACHAR - ישכר

*"He is hired"*

#### THE WEAKNESS WE ARE STRENGTHENING

Many Christians are inactive and not helping expand the Kingdom of God, which is one of the main purposes for Christians on earth. This step helps activate Christians and get them into the community.

#### FOCUS

Beginning to serve in the Kingdom.

#### KEY VERSE

*Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.*  
(Romans 12:11)

#### KEY POINTS

- God wants to HIRE us for work in His fields.
- Everyone is given spiritual gifts to empower them to serve God better. We are to use our gifts together as one body to glorify God.
- Outreach Teams from Path2Hope are Body-Building Teams, designed to provide an opportunity for ALL to use their gifts together to build the body of Christ.
- Path2Hope has training videos available to help prepare oneself before going on an outreach.
- Outreaches are FUN!

*The Step of Issachar is about getting the Christian off the bench and serving. In order to assist this, Path2Hope has created Outreach Teams as a way to get believers more connected with their community.*

## ICE BREAKER

*If you could have any job in the world at all and make a good living doing it, what would your favorite job be?*

## GROUP DISCUSSION

**1.)** *How do you feel your country is doing today? How are the people doing? Are there serious problems? Or is everything okay? **What kinds of problems do you see?***

---

---

---

---

**2.)** *Do you think the government can solve these problems? What about the Church? Can these problems be solved without the Church engaging society and making a difference?*

---

---

---

---

**3.) For Silent Consideration:** *Are you part of the Church that needs to engage society?*

The NINTH Step in the Path 2 Strength is the **STEP OF ISSACHAR.**

The name Issachar means “He is hired.” *God wants to hire you for work in His fields!*

So, in this lesson, we are talking about serving God through ministry to others.

**4.) READ** the following passages:

**Matthew 9:36-38** – *“But when He saw the multitudes, He [Jesus] was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd. Then He said to His disciples, “The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore, pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.”*

**1 Corinthians 15:58** – *“Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.”*

**Romans 12:10-11** – “Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another; not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord.”

**Joshua 24:15** – “And if it seems evil to you to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.”

**Hebrews 6:10** – “For God is not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His name, in that you have ministered to the saints, and do minister.”

5.) What are some of the different ways Christians can serve God? How have you seen Christians serving God?

---

---

---

---

**The Bible teaches that the Holy Spirit gives all Christians special spiritual gifts to empower them to serve Him better. Every Christians is given a different combination of gifts, and these gifts are supposed to be used together, meaning we work together with our gifts as one body to glorify God.**

**The Bible also teaches that no gift is better or more important than another.**

6.) **READ** the following passages:

**1 Corinthians 12:1-11** – “Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant: You know that you were Gentiles, carried away to these dumb idols, however you were led. Therefore, I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God calls Jesus accursed, and no one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit.

*There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all: for to one is given the **word of wisdom** through the Spirit, to another the **word of knowledge** through the same Spirit, to another **faith** by the same Spirit, to another **gifts of healings** by the same Spirit, to another the **working of miracles**, to another **prophecy**, to another **discerning of spirits**, to another **different kinds of tongues**, to another the **interpretation of tongues**. But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.*

**1 Corinthians 12:12-31** – “For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ. For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit. For in fact the body is not one member but many.

*If the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I am not of the body,” is it therefore not of the body? And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I am not of the body,” is it therefore not of the body? If the whole body were an eye, where would be the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where would be the smelling? But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased. And if they were all one member, where would the body be?*

*But now indeed there are many members, yet one body. And the eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you"; nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." No, much rather, those members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary. And those members of the body which we think to be less honorable, on these we bestow greater honor; and our unpresentable parts have greater modesty, but our presentable parts have no need. But God composed the body, having given greater honor to that part which lacks it, that there should be no schism in the body, but that the members should have the same care for one another. And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it.*

*Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually. And God has appointed these in the church: **first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that, miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, varieties of tongues.** Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Are all workers of miracles? Do all have gifts of healings? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? But earnestly desire the best gifts. And yet I show you a more excellent way."*

**7.) Do you know what your spiritual gifts are? Have you ever taken a spiritual gifts test?**

---

---

---

---

*If you aren't sure what your spiritual gifts are, just google "spiritual gifts test" and you will find several links for online tests. Path2Hope recommends taking 2-3 tests to see which gifts show up as consistently strong between them all.*

The outreach teams that Path2Hope has developed are not evangelism teams, or prayer teams, they are **Body-Building Teams**. *This means they are designed to provide an opportunity for all of the gifts to be used together to build the Body of Christ.*

Some people use their gift of evangelism or teaching when speaking with people. Others are prayer warriors who are praying for the conversations as they are happening. Others have the gift of mercy and are looking for ways they and Path2Hope can help meet the physical needs of people struggling, and still others may be gifted in administration and can help organize the team and make it go.

This Saturday, we are going to be doing our first outreach! We are going to meet at \_\_\_\_\_ (location) at 9 AM for prayer and training, and it's going to be a lot of fun!

**For those who worry they won't know what to say:**

Path2Hope has created easy to follow training videos on its website that will more than equip you for the outreach so you will know what to do and say. Anyone who comes to the outreach without having watched the videos can be trained within 20-30 minutes by someone who has.

The Path2Hope method is simple, easy and engaging.

**For those who think people will be annoyed or won't want to talk:**

Path2Hope has launched many Street Teams over the years and has rarely had any volunteer describe a neighborhood outreach with any word other than **"FUN"**!

The Path2Hope method does not involve “telling” people what to believe. It is about showing a genuine, loving interest in people and trying to get to know them while inviting them into community.

The result is an 80% success rate in getting good conversations going with people who answer the door.

8.) **WATCH** the Street Team training video called “Going Door-to-Door” (ST Training 2)

<https://path2hope.org/street1/>

9.) **WATCH** the Street Team training video called “Names Before Donuts” (ST Training 3)

<https://path2hope.org/street1/>

10.) **WATCH** the Street Team training video called “Offering Prayer” (ST Training 4)

<https://path2hope.org/street2/>

11.) *Do you have any questions about the outreach?*

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Well, for anyone who hasn’t watched the rest of the Path2Hope training videos, we strongly recommend doing so before the outreach! They’re not very long and you will learn a lot!**

**If for some reason you can’t, don’t worry about it and still come! We will see you Saturday!**

*The Step of Issachar is about moving Christians off the bench and into the field!*

## **ACTION STEPS & HOMEWORK**

### **Neighborhood Outreach!**

