

Necessary Connections

You Need a Crowd

"I don't have time for another friend" he said to me. He was already overextended, he said. Twenty years later he was a different person. One by one, all of his friends had either preceded him in death or had relocated to Arizona or Florida. He'd sacrificed his family on the altar of a successful career. And now he had none. No family he could depend on. No friends to commiserate with. He was alone. And he was lonely. It turns out, he'd needed to make time to make another friend. This week we'll explore why we need a crowd as part of our personal board of directors.

Mark 3:7–15

1. Jesus needed a crowd to draw _____ from; to _____
_____ in difficult times; and to be have an _____ on.
2. To accomplish his _____ Jesus knew he needed a _____.
3. Gathering a crowd is _____ to achieve our _____
_____.
4. Gathering a crowd is _____ to achieve our _____
_____.

My Count Me In! Commitments

- I'll be here next Sunday
- I'll invite a friend
- I'll expand my network of friends ... starting here at church
- I'll expand my crowd by _____
- I'll pray for success of my church's mission

(Join us Thursdays at 6:30 a.m. to pray for Raytown)

Additional Notes

Digging Deeper, Going Further

Scripture: Mark 3:7–15

Introduction: My niece wrote about meeting a young woman at the gym and after an extended conversation about supplements and workouts she commented, “I’m pretty sure we’re BFFs now.” Another Bestie ... another Best Friend Forever. I checked and I have 3,633 Facebook friends. In today’s culture, friends are a dime a dozen. And apparently it doesn’t take much to be a Bestie either. So it may seem like overkill to say that everyone needs a Crowd on their Personal Board of Directors. And yet, without a crowd, it’s nigh on impossible to reach our fullest potential.

1. How Social Media “friends” do you have? (Go ahead, take a look!)
2. If your pet died at 3 a.m. and you needed to share grief with a friend, who could you call and be certain that (1) they’d answer the phone for you; and (2) they’d be a good enough friend to listen and offer words of comfort ... even at that time of the morning?
3. Read Mark 3:7–15. What did Jesus do that drew this large crowd?
4. What three reasons does Mark give for Jesus choosing the twelve?
5. Why do you think it was necessary for Jesus to draw crowds?
6. In your own words, share your understanding of (1) the mission and (2) the vision of Raytown Christian Church.
7. Why do you think it’s necessary to draw a crowd to RCC in order to achieve the mission/vision?

Who will you invite to worship with you this week?
