

## Ordinary 11A - June 7, 2026

### **Now he carries it under his coat!**

Zeke, mountaineer, went to a revival and was "converted." Later his wife was asked if she noticed any change in Zeke since he supposedly got religion. She said, "Well, before he carried his jug of whiskey on his shoulder when he walked down town, but now he carries it under his coat."

### **Only one Cup**

Carl A. Boyle, a sales representative, was driving home when he saw a group of young children selling Kool-Aid on a corner in his neighborhood. They had posted the typical hand scrawled sign over their stand: "Kool-Aid, 10 cents." Carl was intrigued. He pulled over to the curb. A young man approached and asked if he would like strawberry or grape Kool-Aid. Carl placed his order and handed the boy a quarter. After much deliberation, the children determined he had some change coming and rifled through the cigar box until they finally came up with the correct amount. The boy returned with the change, then stood by the side of the car. He asked if Carl was finished drinking. "Just about," said Carl. "Why?" "That's the only cup we have," answered the boy, "and we need it to stay in business." It's difficult to operate a Kool-Aid business if you only have one cup. We sometimes make that mistake in the church. Today we are focusing our attention on the evangelistic task of the church. For many persons the word "evangelism" brings to mind one cup: The televangelist and the tent revival, or the street corner preacher handing out tracts. In some churches, it means a once-a-year special event or a particular strategy for incorporating newcomers into the life of the church.

By limiting our vision of evangelism to one of these cups, we may be stifling Christ's work on earth and cheating ourselves out of one of the most rewarding endeavors Christ offers us: Evangelism. What is needed is for all of us to become daily involved in evangelism. How?

1. Anchoring Our Concern in Christ's Compassion for the World
2. Shepherding Those who Are Lost in the Crowd
3. Committing Ourselves Because the Workers Are Few

### **Send Workers Now!**

Have you ever been grocery shopping on Friday late afternoon about 5:30, when the lines are long at the cash register? The lines are so long. Do you enjoy standing in line for a long time, waiting for your turn at the cash register? Of course not. And so there is a sigh of relief when you hear the voice of the manager of the grocery store speaking through the loud speaker system: "Cashiers to the front please." And you want them now. Not in five minutes. Ten minutes. Fifteen minutes. The crisis at hand is now and needs to be solved now, not in fifteen minutes.

The last two times I have checked baggage at the airport; there have been really long lines. Often 8 desks, but only 1 or 2 Staff. Do I enjoy waiting in those lines? No. And I am pleased when you see two more agents arrive. Not in five minutes or ten minutes or fifteen minutes. The action is now. We need some extra workers now.

It is with these images that we hear the famous teaching of Jesus when he says: "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Pray to the Lord of the harvest that he will send workers...now!"

(by Edward F. Markquart from *The Original Recipe: The Harvest Is Ripe*)

The law of any church is, and always will be, evangelize or fossilize.  
(by George E. Sweazy from *Let's March Abreast*)