JOIN JESUS IN HIS MISSION

WITH ED STETZER AND NONA JONES

Digging Deeper:

- 1. As you understand it today, how would you describe your missional identity and calling as a co-laborer with the Holy Spirit?
- 2. Is there anything that hinders you from entering into Jesus' compassion for the people of the broken and lost world?
- 3. Honestly consider: when you think about the great commission, have you understood it to be a calling that applies to you personally?

Growing Together:

- 1. What are you and your church currently doing to help fulfill the great commission?
- 2. What are you and your church doing to help equip the people of God to show and share Jesus in their day-to-day lives?
- 3. Share ideas of how evangelistic action could be re-energized in your church. Write down 3-4 ways you'd like to implement.

- 1. In what online space, and with whom, do you plan to use the phrase "Tell me why you believe that" to change an argument into a curiosity-driven conversation?
- 2. Share about or recall a time when you've spoken the truth in an online space—but you did not speak it in love. How do you plan to respond to a similar situation going forward?
- 3. Plan to make a simple post this week asking followers, "How can I pray for you?" Follow up by reflecting on your own or sharing with your group about how God moved as a result.

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MEET CULTURE'S BIG QUESTIONS THROUGH COURAGEOUS CONVERSATIONS

WITH LISA FIELDS AND TYLER STATON

Digging Deeper:

- 1. What are the biggest spiritual challenges you've encountered in the current cultural atmosphere?
- 2. Think about your own salvation story or the spiritual questions that came up for you early in your journey. Consider how patient God has been with you.
- 3. Revisit a disagreement or argument you've had with a friend or family member. Take a few moments to consider what might be at the root of their opinion or perspective.

Growing Together:

- 1. Is there a built-in vehicle in your church or ministry for people to be neutrally heard, or to voice healthy disagreement on controversial cultural issues without judgment? What could this look like?
- 2. What fears arise when you imagine discussing hot-button cultural issues with your congregants or with spiritually curious people?
- 3. Discuss your church's strengths and weaknesses in the area of "earning the right to speak by the way you listen." How can your church intentionally grow into this posture?

- 1. Engage in a courageous conversation with someone this week. Practice listening and understanding their perspective thoroughly before sharing yours.
- 2. Spend ten minutes responding to this journaling prompt: When it comes to evangelism, what is God's responsibility, and what is my responsibility?
- 3. Decide on a time that would work for you to pray 30 seconds every day, asking God to move on behalf of your lost friends and family members, and to give you His heart for them. Set a recurring alarm on your phone or reminder on your calendar, and follow through each day.

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LET LOVE SPEAK LOUDER THAN FEAR

WITH CHRISTINE CAINE AND WILFREDO DE JESÚS

Digging Deeper:

- 1. Can you remember a time when you assumed that a certain person would not want to hear about Jesus?
- 2. Do you recall an occasion when fear stopped you from sharing the Gospel? What were you afraid of?
- 3. Revisit your own story of salvation. What areas of your story could help you relate to other not-yet Christians in their need for God?

Growing Together:

- 1. Jesus crossed social and cultural barriers to show love and bring salvation. What social and cultural barriers do we as a church need to venture across in order to do the same?
- 2. What concerns or fears do you have about crossing those social and cultural barriers, and how can we address them together as the body of Christ?
- 3. In what areas has our ministry been more focused on calling out sin than calling people into the arms of Jesus?

Moving Forward:

- 1. How might Pastor Choco's method of asking, "Is there anything I can do for you?" translate into a church ministry or an individual practice?
- 2. What area of your life currently allows you to build relationships with lost people? If that's not in your weekly rhythm of life, how might you intentionally build it in?
- 3. Will you call someone up this week and tell them that you love them and God loves them?

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Recommended Scripture Study: Luke 8:40-56

Resources: Learn more about Christine Caine and her work christinecaine.com

Learn more about Wilfredo De Jesus and his ministry inthegapbook.com | youtube.com/@pastorchocodejesus7090/featured

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FIND YOUR AUTHENTIC EVANGELISM STYLE

WITH MARK MITTELBERG AND CARRIE HEADINGTON

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Digging Deeper:

- 1. Which of the evangelism styles shared by Mark Mittelberg feels most natural to you?
- 2. Think about your own story of salvation. Which evangelism style was employed by the person who shared with you?
- 3. Which, if any, evangelism style would feel inauthentic to who God has made you to be?

Growing Together:

- 1. How might you encourage the members of your church to discover and begin to practice their own evangelism style? Write down 3-4 ways.
- 2. How might the varying evangelism styles of different members or leaders in your church effectively complement one another?

1. How would you fill in the blank in Carrie's sentence, "In my life with Jesus, I have found so much

3. In what area of Carrie's evangelism model, "Prayer, Care, Share," is your ministry weakest? Share ideas about what could be done to change that.

Moving Forward:

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	would you feel comfortable sharing that with this week?
2.	Pray for an opportunity to share the Gospel this week. Decide what evangelism style to try out.
3.	Prayerfully identify one person who has a different evangelism style from you, and ask if they're interested in sharing the
	Gospel collaboratively.

Recommended Scripture Study: John 4:5-42

START A GOSPEL CONVERSATION

WITH REBECCA MCLAUGHLIN AND JAY KIM

Digging Deeper:

- 1. What are the things you've been "waiting for" before you'll feel qualified to share the Gospel?
- 2. Take a moment to reflect on Rebecca's statement, "It's precisely weak people like you and me who God promises to use."
- 3. Honestly consider the risks of sharing the Gospel within the relationships that are most precious to you. Ask yourself: Is it worth the risk?

Growing Together:

- 1. In what context might Rebecca's model of "Pray, Expect, Ask, Connect, Explain" be helpful to teach or implement in your church?
- 2. Which one of the following: Pray, Expect, Ask, Connect, or Explain, do you believe your congregation may be ill-equipped to practice well? What can be done to change that?
- 3. Is your ministry or church actively connecting its members to the public, creating situations where Gospel conversations could happen? If not, how might those opportunities be created or encouraged? Write down 3-4 ideas.

- 1. Pray and ask God to direct you to the right person (or people) with whom to initiate a Gospel conversation.
- 2. In a conversation this week, try taking Jay Kim's suggestion of simply saying, "Tell me more," and see what God might do.
- 3. Start a Gospel conversation by inquiring with genuine curiosity about someone's religious upbringing, how they feel about it, and what God they do or do not believe in.

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SHARE THE SIMPLE GOSPEL

WITH JD GREEAR AND JOSH WHITE

Digging Deeper:

- 1. What do you think it could look like to "enter into the story" of someone you know with a Gospel-sharing intention?
- 2. Reflect on this question: Do you spend more time talking with God about people or talking to people about God? How do you think this might need to change?
- 3. Is there anything about the Gospel story you don't understand?

Growing Together:

- 1. Collaborate with your team or small group to come up with a simple yet complete way of sharing the Gospel with someone who has never heard it.
- 2. How many of your outreach and community service initiatives have led to a Gospel-sharing encounter? How could you equip your people to be ready to share at all times?
- 3. Is your church or ministry equipped with an avenue for spiritually curious people to be welcomed, ask questions about Jesus, or explore the Bible? If not, how could this be implemented? If so, how could it be strengthened?

Moving Forward:

- 1. Can you think of someone who might be receptive to being invited to your church this week? If so, reach out and ask them to join you.
- 2. How might you embody a better story about Jesus by showing up in genuine friendship or with practical support for a church-averse friend, family member, or acquaintance this week?
- 3. Ask God to create an opportunity for you to share the Gospel with someone this week, and do it!

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Recommended Scripture Study: John 1:1-18

Resources: Learn more about JD Greear, his work, and his resources <u>jdgreear.com</u> Learn more about Josh White and his ministry <u>joshawhite.com</u> | <u>doorofhopepdx.org</u>

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THE JOY OF AN EVANGELISTIC LIFESTYLE

WITH ANDREW & WENDY PALAU AND HOSANNA WONG

Digging Deeper:

- 1. Imagine the changes you'd need to make to orient your lifestyle toward evangelism. What causes hesitation? What pops up in your mind as a high cost? What would you gain in your relationships with God and others?
- 2. Have you ever led someone to Christ? Reflect on (or imagine) the joy of that moment, and the beauty of a life changed by Jesus.
- 3. Which of your struggles could you "let people into" as a means of empathetic evangelism?

Growing Together:

- 1. Let's dream big. What are the large or small changes you'd need to make in your ministry to make evangelism a very high priority? Write down 3-4 changes you'd like to make.
- 2. How might you support one another and hold one another accountable in your decisions to prioritize evangelistic action?
- 3. Share a story, or reflect on, a time when your outreaching action was an answer to someone else's prayer.

- 1. God has called us to be "bilingual." As Hosanna Wong says, we need to be fluent in the words and ways of God as well as fluent in the words and ways of the time and place in which we live. Which language do you need to sharpen?
- 2. What changes could you make in your life as a means of sharpening that language?
- 3. Write down the personal shortcomings that might cause you to feel disqualified from evangelism. Pray over this list, asking God to reveal how these might be opportunities for sharing our common need for Jesus rather than hindrances.

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ENGAGE THE NEXT GENERATION

WITH GREG STIER AND SHELBI SHUTT

Digging Deeper:

- Consider your own personal state of encouragement or disillusionment regarding the spiritual state of the younger generation. Ask God to fill you with Jesus' compassion for them.
- 2. Are there areas of hypocrisy in your life—things you preach that you do not fully practice—that would hinder your authenticity in the eyes of young people? How could you change that?
- 3. Reflect on the prominent ways your life has changed because of Jesus. What did He save you from (the trajectory of your life before meeting Jesus) and what did He save you into (the spiritual benefits you gained that were NOT part of your life before)? How might this guide the way you share your salvation story?

Growing Together:

- 1. Jesus showed His followers Why, What, and How to share the Gospel. How can you follow His example in equipping the youth in your sphere of influence for evangelism?
- 2. How might you encourage young people to be curious about not-yet-believers at their school? What questions can you encourage them to ask, with the intention of opening up spiritual conversations?
- 3. Is there a way your church or ministry can take action to reach out to and serve the youth in your city?

- 1. Write down the names of 2-5 young people in your life to start praying for. Ask God to give you His heart for them. If you don't have young people in your life, ask the youth leader at your church to recommend a few young people you might be able to connect with and pray for.
- 2. Given the context you are in, what are some phrases, mnemonic devices, or verses that might help the youth in your sphere of influence share the Gospel accurately and simply?
- 3. Plan a collaborative discussion with the youth in your life on how they might share Jesus through social media. Encourage the grown generation of your church to ask them for their input on how best to communicate the love of Christ to young people.

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