

“Life on Mission” Discussion Group Questions

SESSION I: Reading from Life on Mission -Introduction, Overview and Section 1

- 1.) What does it mean to be a witness?
- 2.) What do you make of these statements?

P 8: We, like Jesus, need to be intentional about trying to connect with those who likely won't set foot in our churches.

Pg 9: Teddy R "nobody cares how much you know until they know how much you care."

Pg 17: Take the number of churches in Chicago, which has decreased by 900 in the last 10 years. Apparently they make nice condominiums. . . . What does that say to you?

- 3.) Where in your life are you connected with others, such that you could influence them by your faith? What keeps you or others from talking about God or sharing the Gospel?
- 4.) Which of the following most accurately describes your view on sharing your faith?
 - a. It makes me nervous or uncomfortable. It feels like an imposition, so I avoid talking about it.
 - b. I'll answer questions if someone asks, but I don't bring it up.
 - c. I try to talk about it on occasion when I think it is appropriate.
 - d. I evangelize regularly and talk to strangers about God regularly.
- 5.) Jesus calls us to be salt and light. How can you live your life in a way that makes people thirst for God?
- 6.) "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8) In this verse, Jesus restates his commission to His disciples. How do you think this applies to your life? How are you called to witness to your faith?

SESSION 2: Reading from Life on Mission - Sections 2 and 3

- 1.) Tell about a time when you were welcomed to a gathering or meal as a newcomer. What happened and how did it make you feel?
- 2.) Name some public places where you might connect with people so that you might have the opportunity to "welcome the stranger" or practice witnessing to your faith? At work? The gym (YMCA)? The grocery store? The coffee shop? Kid's school? What barriers are there to doing that?
- 3.) How might you draw someone into a conversation about faith, about God?
- 4.) "I desire mercy, not sacrifice. For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners." Pope Francis refers to the Church as a field hospital, a place where sinners can come for healing. His influence flows out of how he models God's mercy. How might we reflect God's mercy such that we attract others to God?
- 5.) What do the following quotes from scripture implicate for us in living our lives?

"Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice, mourn with those who mourn. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position." (Romans 12:13-16)

"For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost." (Luke 19:10)

"Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a basket. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:15-16)

SESSION 3: Reading from Life on Mission - Sections 4 and 5

- 1.) What are some ways that you've experienced God's love and kindness through the acts of another person?
- 2.) What are some needs that you've noticed lately - opportunities where you could possibly serve others? How can you respond to those needs?
- 3.) In order to introduce people to Jesus, we have to genuinely love them - we need to make them not just friends but family. What steps are you taking (or do you want to take) to love people in this way?
- 4.) Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God - this is true and proper worship. (Romans 12:1) How might you "offer your body" as a sacrifice in worship of God?
- 5.) What are the most important parts of your story which you might share to reflect your faith and to attract others to want to deepen their faith/their experience with God? How do you go about telling your discipleship story and sharing it with others to invite them in?