

05.27.18 - Faith Promise: Inspire - Christian Lindbeck

Leader Prep Section

- Prepare by reading through the questions and scripture passage so that you can select a few questions that are best suited to your group.
- Try to work through at least one question from each of the sections - Hook, Book, Look, Took in order to move from observation to application.
- When possible spend time in prayer for each member of your group.

Goal: We want to be missions-minded and compassionate towards the lost at home and around the globe. Everyone prays, gives, and/or goes. Make sure to spend lots of time in the “Took” section!

Hook - Ice breaker type questions to help make the transition into the study time.

- What are some things that stood out to you from Sunday’s sermon?
- Have you ever been to a church or worship service with believers who come from a different culture from you? What was it like? Did you feel comfortable or uncomfortable?

Background / Reading

Read: Matthew 28:18-20

At the end of the bible, the apostle John shares a vision of the very end. Here’s what he sees: the fulfillment of the Great Commission given by Jesus.

Read: Revelation 7:9-10

- Does anyone have any questions about this passage? Or observations that stand out to you immediately? (Remind those who share that we’ll likely return to their ideas in our discussion!)

Book - These questions are designed to get you into the text itself.

- Who is included in the multitude? Can you think of any type of person who could be excluded from this description (every nation, people, etc.)?
- Where is this multitude of people? (Before the throne)
What does that signify about their relationship with God? (They know him, they’re in God’s presence, they have a restored relationship with him)
- What are they saying and what does it mean?

Look - These questions will take you on a deeper look at what the passage means for us today.

- How is John’s vision in Revelation a fulfillment of the Great Commission?
- How did this group of people come to stand before the throne of God? How did they enter into a right relationship with him?
- If you had to guess, what percentage of this multitude know Jesus because someone took seriously the Great Commission--to make disciples of all nations?
- At this very moment, do you think there is a representative from *every* nation, tribe, people, and language who knows God?

Took - These questions are focused on applying the big idea from the text to our lives.

- Should the local church reflect the Rev. 7:9 kind of diversity here and now? Why or why not? What makes that difficult?

- How can you make disciples of all nations, even while you live and work here in the US? What can you do to welcome the nations into the global Church?
- What can we as the church do to make sure *every* people group is represented before the throne of God? Is there anything you personally can do?
- When it comes to reaching the nations, do you feel most called to pray, give, or go? Are you actually doing that? Is anything holding you back?

Closing

- If your group wasn't able to pray for the nations last week, it's not too late! Check out the prayer points below! If you've already prayed for the nations, go ahead and pray for the missionaries you know who are living out the Great Commission and making disciples among the nations.
- Pray for the 42.2% of the world's population (3.1 billion) who are "unreached," meaning they do not have a Christian witness in their own language or cultural group.
- Pray for the 634 million people (representing 4,400 languages) who don't yet have any part of the bible translated into their native language.
- Pray for missionaries serving in closed countries: For all the ways that they creatively bring the gospel to people when it is illegal or discouraged.
- As of 2015, only 3.3% of overseas missionaries were serving in places and among people where there is no community of believers. Pray for God to call more missionaries to serve where there is no church. Pray that those who are called (or even just interested!) will answer and will be equipped to go.

Check out more unbelievable statistics about missions here: <http://www.thetravelingteam.org/stats>