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## Shared Direction Week One

### Introduction to the Next 5 Years - Christian Lindbeck

September 12, 2021

#### Leader Preparation

1. Take some time to look over these questions ahead of time. Choose the ones that you want to make sure you cover with your group. We have highlighted what we think are **key ideas/questions by bolding them.**
2. Pray for your group and your time together as you prepare. This is so helpful!
3. When meeting online you as the leader will need to be more directive than in person. Don't be afraid to invite everyone to answer a question, invite them to share by name, and thank them when they finish. The online format requires a little more intentional orchestrating than an in-person group.
4. Try to start the gathering by getting everyone talking at least once to begin. The Hook section is great for this. When in doubt, have people share stories about their past. (How the week was, favorite memories about the topic for the day, etc). This is a great way to help your group continue to get to know one another.
5. Next, look at the Scripture and what it means. We believe Jesus is discipling people through this Word. Get people into the Scriptures and the Scriptures into people!
6. Finally, end with what God is saying to people and how God is inviting them to respond. These aren't just ideas to know but realities to live in!



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#### Hook - Getting to know one another

- When is a time that you or a group you were part of had a clear and compelling vision for the future?

#### Book - Scripture

- Read the scripture, and discuss a few questions to understand **what the text is saying**.
- Read Luke 15:1 - 7; Acts 1:8; 2:42 - 47
- What do these Scriptures tell us about what God is like?
  - List what are the very specific things we can know about God from these texts.
- What do these Scriptures say about God's Mission in the world?
  - Who is it to?
  - How does it work?
  - What does it look like?
  - What else can we say about it?
- What do these Scriptures tell us about what it means to follow Jesus on his Mission?
  - What can we expect from God as we follow Him?
  - What are we called to do?

#### Look - Connections to our world today

- This section focuses on implications about **what this text means** about what's wrong in the world, about trusting God, about who God is, etc.
- What aspect of these texts do you find most exciting?
- What aspect of these texts do you find most challenging?



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- What do these Scriptures describe that you think the Church in America is doing well at?
- What does these Scriptures describe that you think the Church in America struggles at?

#### Took - Personal Application

- This application focuses on **how God is calling us to respond**. This could be personally, as a family, small group, or church. It could be something to believe, to meditate on, to say or do this week.
- What do you sense God saying to you about Hillcrest Church from these Scriptures?
- What do you sense God is saying to you the implications are for your small group this year?

Time of Prayer