

Sermon Guide for Cumberland Fellowship Live Stream July 26, 2020

This guide is a supplement to the weekly sermon. We encourage families and small groups to use it. When we hear God's Word read and explained, we need to do more than listen. The Bible says, "Be doers of the word, not hearers only (James 1:22)." **Step 1: GATHER** with your family or small group. **Step 2: REVIEW** and **DISCUSS** the key points and scriptures from the sermon using the Discussion Guide (see below). **Step 3: PRAY** for the prayer requests shared by your family or small group.

Discussion Guide: Breakthrough – Prayer and Fasting

Discussion Starter 1: Ask your small group or family if they sense that God is positioning your lives and our church for a breakthrough in spreading the gospel. Talk about who you can specifically pray for salvation. Go to www.joshuaproject.net and help your group to understand the lostness that is prevalent in the world. Ask your group to start praying for a list of unreached people groups.

Discussion Starter 2: Have someone read Matthew 9:37-38. Pastor Andy mentioned that the church in Antioch became a center for missions around the world. Ask you small group or family how they can do the same thing. Ask, "How can we be on mission for the Lord?" Discuss options for serving the Lord together as a group in Crossville. Ask if anyone has ever sensed that God may be calling them to go on a mission trip or become full time missionaries somewhere in the world.

Self-Evaluation: The church in Antioch had put God's mission above their own comfort and agenda. As Christians, we are to regularly deny ourselves by setting aside what we want and what we find comfortable to do what God has called us to do. Read Luke 9:23. Ask your group to have a few moments of silent prayer to hear the call of Jesus in this verse. Have someone pray aloud to close out this time of reflection.

Digging Deeper: Jesus command to spread the gospel is found in all four gospels and in Acts. Ask some people in your small group or family to read the following verses: Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15; Luke 24:44-48; John 20:21; Acts 1:8. Discuss some of the obstacles that the early church faced in sharing the gospel in Acts. Ask, "What are some obstacles we face individually and as a church in being on mission for God?"

Doing the Word: Ask your group to discuss how the Great Commission applies to their own life. Ask, "How are you intentionally seeking to make disciples? Who are you discipling?" If they are struggling to know how or to know who, stop and pray about it together and seek the Lord's direction. Pray together that God would open up doors this next week to share the good news of Jesus with someone at home, at work, at church, or in our community.