

Sermon Discussion Guide for Cumberland Fellowship Church
Sermon Series: Scatter – July 3, 2022



*This guide is a supplement to the weekly sermon. We encourage families and groups to use it. When we hear God's Word, 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 group. **Step 2: REVIEW** and **DISCUSS** the key points and scriptures from the sermon. **Step 3: PRAY** for the prayer requests shared by your family or group.*

DISCUSSION STARTER

Discuss the word "authority" with your group. Ask, "Is 'authority' a positive or negative word? How could it be used negatively and how could it be used positively?" Going a little further with this concept ask, "Who, in your life, do you have authority over? Who has authority over you? What would the world look like if there were no authority structures set in place by God?"

DIGGING DEEPER 1

Read Matthew 28:16-18. Use a study Bible or background information from the message to discuss the context of these words of Jesus. Ask, "What was going on here in the life of Christ? What important events had occurred or were about to occur?" Our message focuses on missions and how Jesus commanded His disciples and all believers to scatter throughout the earth with the Gospel message. Ask, "What is significant about Jesus' use of the word 'authority?' How does Jesus' authority impact the command to go and make disciples?"

DIGGING DEEPER 2

Pastor mentioned how our partners in missions in Costa Rica had a massive change right before our mission trip. Discuss the significance of that change and how God was working to redirect our mission efforts in Costa Rica. Ask, "Have you ever had God make a big change in your life when you had another plan? What adjustments did you have to make?"

DIGGING DEEPER 3

Our new partners in missions in Costa Rica are Steve and Elizabeth Gilroy with "Face of Justice Miniseries." God changed the direction of our mission work in Costa Rica to the problem of exploitation of women and girls and sex trafficking. Ask, "What did you learn about the problem and what compelling facts about this issue stood out from the message?" The "Grace House" and ghetto ministry called "Las Tables" had a great impact on our mission team. Ask, "When you hear about how God is working in the lives of these broken people, how does it affect you? Do you find it uncomfortable, or does it challenge you to do something about it? How is God calling you to get involved in Costa Rica and other places to share the love of Christ and the gospel with persons facing this horrific business of exploitation and sex trafficking?"

DOING THE WORD

Read Matthew 8:1-3. Ask, "Why was it so amazing that Jesus healed the leper by touching him?" While we may find it difficult to face the disgusting practice of exploitation and sex trafficking, God is calling us to go to battle against the darkness with the light and love of God. Come up with some concrete ways your group can be on mission during the second half of the year. Plan to go on a mission trip and support missions financially by giving money to help individuals and teams to go on mission trips. Decide to serve at the Convoy of Hope Community Event in August, CF Storehouse, or other ministries in our area. Whether it is a one-time event or an ongoing mission endeavor, obey the Great Commission of Christ. **Close by reading Matthew 28:16-20.** Emphasize how Christ has the authority to send us and the power to help us fulfill His command to "GO!"