

## **Peoples Church: Small Group Questions**

**DATE: June 11, 2017**

**SPEAKER: Pastor Winston Bui**

1. Have you ever run from a battle when you had a chance to be battle tested?

### **LOOKING BACK:**

Pastor Bui spoke about growing up in South Vietnam and growing during the war with North Vietnam. His father was part of the South Vietnam military and moved his family out of South Vietnam to a safer country. His family escaped to America and lived in Oklahoma and gave himself to the Lord in high school after being invited to church from a friend. Pastor Bui's parents were still Buddhists, but Pastor Bui prayed for nine years for his parents to become Christians. They became Christians after going to a church service.

2. What did a staff represent in the Old Testament?

In the Old Testament, people carried a staff for a lifetime. When a significant event would happen, the people of the Old Testament would carve into the staff with a knife. Biblically, the staff spiritually represented power and support.

In Exodus 3, Moses was on the hill and God was trying to get Moses to do something significant. God was trying to get 2 million Israelites to the Holy Land. Moses didn't think he could do that, but God let Moses know that he was the chosen one. In Exodus 4:2, God told Moses to lay down his staff so his people can be set free.

3. Do we have anything in our culture that is equivalent to a staff?

### **DIGGING DEEPER:**

God is calling us to step out and set a generation of people free. If we are willing to step out, then God will make sure you have something to step on. Pastor Bui was working at the University of Missouri's campus ministry working with the students. There were 8 students in the first year and then grew to 300 within 3 years. Pastor Bui was being called to UCLA where they only had 1 student in their campus ministries program. Pastor Bui didn't understand why he was being called to Los Angeles, but said yes to God. Pastor Bui now has a campus ministry group at UCLA and USC.

### **TAKING IT HOME:**

We serve a God that is great and should be praised. Every time we run from an issue, that is not giving ourselves a chance to be battle tested. In Psalm 20:7 some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God. Psalm 23:4 Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.