

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

**11.6.16**

**Speaker: Pastor Rene Charest**

**LOOKING BACK:** James 2:15-17

Pastor Rene Charest talked about how he began with domestic missions after he realized the concentrated poverty areas in Fresno. He purchased a college campus to be the Valley Dream Center and from there has been able to develop amazing programs to help people from difficult situations.

1. Why do you think people are afraid of being missionaries in their local communities?

The need is overwhelming, but the Bible says that one plants, one waters, and God causes the increase. So, they decided to create strategic partnerships. What businesses, non-profits, grant writers are doing good things for the community that can help them out?

2. The corporate generosity of the Church is meant to be a combined effort. Who can you partner with to begin to impact those around you, whether physically or spiritually?

**DIGGING DEEPER:** International missions

Third-world countries, in their desperation, are more open to the miracles of God.

Pastor Rene talked about when he was in the middle of a Cambodian jungle and the miracles that took place there — visible circles of fire, healings, powerful prayers.

3. How do you feel when you hear about these radical, faith-filled stories? Do you believe that it's possible to see that happen here in America?

**TAKING IT HOME:** A father, a son, and a donkey

The last story, based on one of Aesop's fables, was about going through life worrying about what everyone else thinks of you.

Deuteronomy 31:6

4. Following Jesus can be a scary thing, and a lot of people may have opinions and criticisms as you step out in faith. What has been your biggest obstacle when it comes to acting on Jesus' call on your life?