



Core Work
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"IMMERSE and IGNITE"
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Key Verses: 1 Timothy 4:7-16 and Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8

Key Thought: Two elements of our "strategy"— how we interact with each other to walk in our mission — are 1) to IMMERSE into the deeper life of the Spirit and 2) to IGNITE the world with Jesus.

Points to Consider:

- We are on a mission to "awaken the broken to a life of wholeness found in Jesus" by immersing into the deeper life of the Spirit and igniting the world with Jesus.
- We want to affirm BOTH IMMERSE (spiritual formation inside the body of Christ) and IGNITE (missions outside the body of Christ) as vital to the life of wholeness.
- While growth is from God, we are NOT passive. And while we are active, growth is NOT from us. → We are active in growth because God offers us grace.
- IMMERSE is about spiritual "training," an intentional, disciplined process— involving instruction and practice— to cultivate "godliness" (i.e., when our knowledge/experience of God shapes our living— as empowered by the Spirit).
- Examples of such "training" are Immersion Courses, Celebrate Recovery, practice of the spiritual disciplines (e.g., Scripture, prayer, fasting), and gifted service.
- Many who self-identify as Christians are not familiar with our commission from Jesus to make disciples (cf. Matt 28:18-20); and far more believe that commission pertains only to "professional" Christians and not to themselves.
- We IGNITE through *personal, powerful* (i.e., transformative) experience of the gospel, propelling us to shine the light of Jesus on those who are living in darkness.

Discussion Prompts:

- What are some unhealthy, distorted, or incomplete views of spiritual formation? What is Paul's view— as conveyed in 1 Timothy 4:7-16?
- Describe a spiritual training regimen that could help you grow in this season.
- Have you "personalized" the Great Commission? (*Rate 1-5, and explain.)
- Do these words— *personal, powerful*, or *propelling*— describe your experience with the gospel? Which word would you most like to describe your experience in this season?
- Discuss how, specifically, IMMERSE and IGNITE help us to walk in our mission.