## DGROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE



"Testimony" Special Message Elder Nick Arellano July 9, 2023

**WELCOME** Share a happy, summertime childhood memory.

**WORSHIP** Give Me Jesus – Jeremy Camp

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GCHDnn2wcCw

**W**ORD

<u>Psalm 37:23-24, 2 Kings 17:11-12, Colossians 3:23-24, Ephesians 4:14-15, Philippians 2:9-13, John 5:24, Mark 12:29-31, Isaiah 41:10</u>

- 1. What stood out to you as Nick shared his testimony?
- 2. Nick shared about his childhood Catholic faith background and experience as a teen at a new church with his father and brother.
  - Describe *your* first impression of God. How old were you?
    Where were you? What happened in that place?
  - Who or what helped you understand the person of Jesus Christ? Describe the situation.
- 3. Nick shared two huge setbacks that were not part of his plan, one creating a fear of the unknown and the second, a fear of failure vs. success. How did God move in Nick's life in these crises and how did Nick respond to each?
- **4.** Think of a time you had difficulty believing or trusting God's leadership, whether in smooth times or times of setback/crises. What did that look like for you? What was the resolution of that crisis of faith?
- **5.** What is the concept of "Backpack Jesus" as Nick described and are you familiar with walking through life with 'one'? How can we mature in our faith, living a life increasingly surrendered and trusting in God's leadership?

**VITNESS** Nick shared the words spoken by a man during a mission trip to India that made a significant impression him: "You, sir, are on the top of the world. You are from the United States, God placed you there. Don't forget that." Share your thoughts on this including how it relates to where God has placed you and your witness.