



THE EPHESUS STRATEGY STUDY GUIDE

Equipping Leaders to Make Disciples God's Way

Dr. Heidi C. Daniels

Study Guide Author
Heidi C Daniels, D. Min., M.A. Ed

All Scripture quotations, unless otherwise noted, are taken from the
New King James Version (NKJV) of the Bible.

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Introduction to the Study Guide

The purpose of this guide is to help you apply what you are learning in The Ephesus Strategy Training Manual. You can use this study guide on your own or with others. If you have an opportunity, we encourage you to attend a group training session that presents this material through video or in-person teaching.

We are excited that you desire to learn new things from this study. What is the best way to learn a new thing? This may depend upon the outcome you desire. For example, let's think about how you learn to ride a bicycle. You might first watch your friend ride, but then you need to try it yourself. If you never go outside and put your feet on the pedals, you won't be able to demonstrate that you really know how to ride that bicycle.

In a similar way, you can read The Ephesus Strategy training manual or listen to someone tell you about the strategy that Paul used to make disciples in this city called Ephesus. You might even observe as someone models how to use that information in a 21st-century setting. But if you never go out and apply what you've learned with others, it's only another piece of knowledge in your head.

Some people learn to ride a bicycle very easily and quickly. Others need more time to develop this ability. If you get going and then fall, you don't stop riding bicycles. You get up and keep going! If you struggle to ride successfully in a new environment, it helps to have friends to encourage you.

Likewise, you might understand some of the ideas in the training manual very quickly. You may need more time with some of the concepts. If you struggle with how to apply these ideas in your setting, don't give up on what you are learning. Spend time in prayer with others who are also involved in this study. Ask God to give you all a spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him (Ephesians 1:17).

LORD, as we learn more about the growth of the church in Ephesus, open our eyes to see. Open new understanding to our team. Show us LORD, how to walk in a manner worthy of our calling.

Teach us how to make disciples in our homes, in the villages and cities, in the regions of our nation, and in the nations beyond our own.

Heidi Daniels

Practical Use of the Study Guide

This guide is organized into sections that correspond to each chapter of the training manual. Use these practical steps to gain deeper understanding of the content.

- ❖ **READ** - Read each chapter of the training manual. Read for details as well as for the main idea in the passage. Read everything, including the words in each chart or diagram. The purpose of this reading is to get information. Until you have gathered accurate information, it is difficult to make an appropriate response.
- ❖ **PAUSE** - In the Psalms, the Hebrew word *selah* is sometimes used at the end of a phrase or thought within the psalm. Remember that psalms were songs. *Selah* indicates for the singer to suspend the music or to pause before continuing. Perhaps you have read The Ephesus Strategy training manual already. Maybe it is brand new to you. As you read each section, take your time. Absorb what the Lord is showing you through the reading.
- ❖ **REFLECT** - Think of a mirror and how it shows a person's reflection. Allow the mirror of the Word of God to show you things in a clear way that is not blurred by personal agendas or traditions of men. Take time to look at how the biblical examples given in this strategic manual may apply to you and your leadership team. Be open to fresh observations. Jot down words or sketch out pictures that are meaningful. Be willing to invest your time in this element of reflection. You might reflect on your own, and then gather with others who are also reading the manual. Prayerfully share your reflections. Be sure to pass them through the lens of the Holy Spirit.
- ❖ **RESPOND** - After reflecting on what you've read, it's important to respond or take action. This response should help you to absorb and work out what you have learned. You will be presented with ideas for application that encourage you to do something. Develop practical steps with your team for how to use what you are reading about in the manual. Be careful to align these action steps with God's word.

Foreword: The first few pages of the manual are very important to include in your study. A foreword provides information and reflection from a person other than the writer of the main text. This section can provide valuable insights to prepare your mind for what you will be reading later.

❖ **READ** the entire Foreword.

❖ **PAUSE**

After you read, go back and read again. This time, pause after each paragraph.

❖ **REFLECT and RESPOND**

Reflection 1: Dr. Isong states, “*God centered His mind on this city of Ephesus*”.

1. What are some reasons he gives for why Ephesus stood out from other cities?

- **commercial strength, worship, culture**

2. Think about the village or city where you live. Does it stand out from other villages or cities around you? In what way? When ‘outsiders’ speak of it, what words do they use?

3. Think about a place where your team is considering outreach. Why does your team have its mind centered on this place? Has the Holy Spirit led you to consider this place?

Reflection 2: *“The process of finding, empowering, equipping, and releasing the disciples appears simple, but it's very powerful upon application.”*

1. Describe something ‘simple’ that the Holy Spirit has taught you in the past.

2. Did this simple thing lead to a powerful result in you or in others? What happened to show you had learned what He taught you?

Reflection 3: *“I believe the strategy that shook Ephesus and all of Asia and turned them to believe and trust Jesus, will do the same today when we faithfully use this strategy. It doesn't matter how hard the land is.”*

1. Consider the land where you live. In what ways is it a ‘hard’ place to make disciples?

2. You’ve just started reading and might not yet know much about the Ephesus strategy. What are some thoughts you have on why this strategy impacted the region so strongly?

Introduction: With a training manual, the introduction has an important purpose. The writer shows why he decided to write the manual and what problem or concern he is addressing.

❖ **READ** the entire Introduction.

❖ **PAUSE**

After you read, go back and read again.

This time, pause after each paragraph.

❖ **REFLECT and RESPOND**

Reflection 1: Brother Michael states *“Many church leaders struggle with how to make disciples. Equipping leaders remains the number one request we receive from the nations.”*

1. What does it mean to make disciples? You can write down some quotes from the Introduction here, as well as your reflections.

- **It goes beyond the classroom**
- **It involves attaching yourself to the Word and the Holy Spirit**
- **It means becoming a follower of sound doctrine and holy conduct**

2. Do you or your team struggle with how to make disciples? What are some of the struggles that you face?

Reflection 2: Matthew 28:18-20: Jesus says that all authority has been given to Him in heaven and earth. Consider this statement in relation to the struggles you wrote down in Reflection

1. Take time right now to praise Him for this authority!

2. What other words from these verses stand out to you? Why?

Reflection 3: *“...it is the ministry that takes place in Ephesus where we discover a more comprehensive picture of how to make disciples.”* In Paul’s journey to Ephesus, we discover a practical example of fulfilling the Great Commission. As you enter this study, ask the Lord to open your eyes and your understanding. Pray that He will show you specific ways to apply this strategy within your own region.

NOTES

Chapter 1: Why Ephesus?

This chapter takes us into the history of the city, from the days of Paul and beyond. We will focus here on learning about the leadership that the Holy Spirit placed within its boundaries.

❖ **READ** the entire chapter. If you are able, do this in one setting.

❖ **PAUSE**

After you read, go back and carefully review the text and visual material. There is a lot of detail in this chapter, so it may help to break this reading into several sessions. The facts presented here are important so we can understand the ‘big picture’ of what it was like in the city of Ephesus.

❖ **REFLECT and RESPOND**

Reflection 1: “...the threat the spread of Christianity posed to the people of Ephesus was twofold: their prosperity and their idol worship.” (p. 6)

1. In what ways might the spread of Christianity threaten the activities of people in your village/city?
2. Idol worship of Artemis (Diana) spread from Ephesus throughout a large region. Paul was given great wisdom from the Holy Spirit on how to dismantle and destroy this influence. Pray and ask God for wisdom on how to make disciples in the face of any significant opposition that you may face in your village, city, or region. What is the dominant influence opposing God’s work in your village or region?

Reflection 2: “...let us not overlook the direction and supervision He provides as we labor together in the work of the Lord.” (p. 8)

1. Paul and his team were led by the Holy Spirit, even to what cities they should visit and the ones they should not. Have you ever experienced the Lord’s restraining, keeping you from going to a particular place? If so, describe how you were obedient (or disobedient) to His word of restraint.

2. As with the leaders of the Early Church, the Lord may speak to you about going to a certain place to preach the gospel. What should a person do, who feels led to go but is unsure about when or even where to go?
 - **Seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit through prayer and fasting.**
 - **There are also many other positive actions that He may guide you into as you make this decision. For example: Seek wise counsel from others, spend time reading the Word, and set aside your own preferences or what appears to make sense in the natural.**
3. Have you ever felt led by the Spirit to go to a certain location, but had the timing wrong? Explain the situation.

Reflection 3: “Paul refers to the saints there as **faithful in Christ Jesus**. Perhaps, this was due to the fact that Paul and his ministry team spent more time there than any other place. The move of God in Ephesus impacted all of Asia.” (p. 11)

1. Finding, empowering, equipping, and releasing disciples takes an investment of time. Consider how much time you are willing to invest in a particular village/city/region. Are you prepared to go and to stay for a while if the Lord requires this of you?
2. A **team** of apostolic-type leaders were involved with Paul in the ministry to Ephesus. Take time now to review the names and descriptions given on pages 13-15 of the manual. In the space below, write down the names of at least 3 of these leaders. Then list one positive thing that you found interesting about that person.
 - **Example: Apollos was fervent and taught accurately what he knew**

Reflection 4: This chapter includes some interesting information about Ephesus that comes from the writings of the early apostolic fathers. These men were discipled by the likes of Peter and John. They were “the next generation leaders” of their day. The words of these leaders help us understand the lasting impact of the ministry in Ephesus and beyond. On pages 18-21 of the manual, there are many quotes from these early leaders. Take time here to record a few key points from those pages. Focus on positive qualities that were observed about the Christians in Ephesus.

- **Example: Ignatius, page 18, bullet point 1 – no sect has any dwelling place among you.**

NOTES

Chapter 2: Beginning the Ephesus Strategy

This chapter focuses on a pattern of discipleship that aligns with the ministry of Jesus and the Early Church. Here we begin examining the scriptures that show this.

❖ **READ** the entire chapter. If you are able, do this in one setting.

❖ **PAUSE**

After you read, go back and review the text. Take time to consider what you are reading. Again, there is a lot of detail in this chapter, including many passages of scripture. It may help to break this reading into several sessions. A careful reading of the information will help us lay a good foundation of understanding.

❖ **REFLECT and RESPOND**

Reflection 1: In the manual, the first page of this chapter lists some very challenging questions. We hope that you can answer each question with a yes but take time to reflect on what information you need to support that answer. Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to help you. Explain your answers.

1. *Is there a divine flow and procedure or pattern in the ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ and the Early Church?*
2. *Are your steps in the way you do ministry ordered by the Lord?*
3. *Is what you do in ministry fully aligned with the ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ and the Early Church?*
4. *Is it realistic to believe that what we read in the Scriptures about what and how they did ministry in Ephesus is what can be expected today?*

Reflection 2: “The Ephesus Strategy begins with finding disciples or more accurately those who are to be equipped to make disciples in order to effectively continue the glorious ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ on earth.” (p. 25)

1. Based on what you’ve read in this chapter about the example of Jesus, how are these disciples to be selected? Careful selection by the leading of the Holy Spirit through prayer was how Jesus and Paul found 12 disciples. Have you seen disciples selected by other means that were not led by the Holy Spirit? List at least two of these

inappropriate ways of selecting leaders and explain why they are contrary to the biblical examples. Support with scripture.

Reflection 3: Paul asked the twelve disciples of Ephesus two questions. The first was if they had received the Holy Spirit. The second was in response to their admission that they were not taught anything about the Holy Spirit. He asks them, *“Into what then were you baptized?”* (see p. 26).

1. Describe the distinction between water baptism and the baptism with the Holy Spirit and fire.
 - **Water Baptism – We recognize and repent of our sins and believe in Jesus for the forgiveness of sins.**
 - **Baptism with the Holy Spirit and Fire – We receive power to be witnesses of Jesus.**

Have you been water baptized? Have you been baptized with the Holy Spirit and fire? If your answer to either question is *no*, we encourage you to share this with your team and take action to receive these baptisms like the disciples of the Early Church. If your answer to both questions is *yes*, take time to remember and record the details of these pivotal events in your life. Share your testimony of these events with your team members or study group.

Reflection 4: *“The phrase **those who believe and know the truth** indicates there is an important connection and chronological development from the basic believing in God and knowing Biblical truth to living out our lives according to His will and purpose.”* (p. 31)

1. Read Acts 19:8-10 (p. 29 of the manual). Take note of why and for how long Paul taught in the school of Tyrannus. Why? After 3 months in synagogue, some spoke evil of the Way in front of the crowds. He withdrew the disciples to the school and there he was able to lay a strong foundation over a 2-year period. This was so effective that ALL who

dwelt in Asia heard the word of the Lord Jesus. (Wow!) Explain what you learn from this sequence of events.

2. Read I Tim. 4:1-16 (p. 30-31 of the manual). Review the chart on pages 31-33. Then review the 8 biblical truths on page 35. This passage written by Paul to Timothy is full of practical instruction for the equipping of young leaders. Ask the Holy Spirit to bring His revelation to you regarding these verses. Record what He shows you. Share this with your group so that you can be edified and encouraged together.

Reflection 5: *“Jesus released His disciples while He was still active in His ministry on the earth.”* (p. 36)

1. Read Luke 10:1-20, Review the practical points on page 37 of the manual related to this passage. What points stand out to you right now? Why? Do you see an operational pattern in these mission instructions? Describe the pattern in your own words.
2. Look at the final 6 points in this chapter that summarize how to make disciples God’s way (p. 37). Consider what it practically looks like in your setting to be chosen, empowered, and taught. How do you or will you learn, go out, and report back like the disciples?

NOTES

Chapter 3: Ministering with the Ephesus Strategy

In this chapter, we look at what took place in Ephesus because the disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit and thoroughly equipped to continue the ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit.

❖ **READ** the entire chapter. If you are able, do this in one setting.

❖ **PAUSE**

After you read, go back and review the text. Focus on what people were seeing as a result of the ministry in Ephesus. Take time to carefully look at the chart on page 46.

❖ **REFLECT and RESPOND**

Reflection I: “...healing and deliverance miracles had a remarkable impact upon the people of Ephesus.” (p. 39)

1. Describe a healing miracle that you have seen occur in another person. Would you consider this an unusual miracle? Why or why not?
2. Have you experienced a healing miracle in your own body? Record your testimony of this healing and be prepared to share it with your group.
3. Healing can occur through the laying on of hands. We have also seen that people can be healed through other types of contact. Consider the examples of the women who touched Jesus’ robe, the people healed when the shadow of Peter fell on them, and the people healed by the *handkerchiefs* or *aprons* touched by Paul. Have you seen people healed by any of these methods or something similar? Share this experience with the group.

Reflection 2: “No one who names the name of Jesus can afford to limit or restrain from speaking His name, praising his name, exalting His name, and doing everything in His name.” (p. 40)

1. In the Early Church, religious leaders often became agitated when His followers spoke in His name. Have you ever experienced this resistance against the name of Jesus by people around you? Describe that response and why you believe it occurred.
2. Why is it so important to speak the name of Jesus? Answer this question in your own words, using information from pages 40-41. Be prepared to share with your group.

Reflection 3: “Although Satan’s ministry appeared powerful in Ephesus, a greater and more powerful ministry emerged through Paul and his team. It was the ministry of Jesus, whom God anointed with the Holy Spirit and power.” (p. 44)

1. Consider what happened to the sons of Sceva and the itinerant exorcists in Ephesus (Acts 19:13-19). What can we learn here about confronting evil spirits? Based upon the account in Acts 19, list a few thoughts below the following chart.

WHAT NOT TO DO	WHAT TO DO
Take it upon yourself	Move only with the leading of the Holy Spirit
Assume that certain words we’ve used before will work every time	Be obedient - speak what the LORD directs
Try to cast out spirits if you are doing it out of religious formality	Power up and become an intimidating force against demonic forces of darkness in the world around you
Think that it’s just a matter of how many people are praying	Remember the biblical example of going out in pairs

2. Have you cast out demons in Jesus’ name? If yes, describe one of those events. If not, consider why you have not.

Reflection 4: “So the word of the Lord grew mightily and prevailed.” Acts 19:20

1. Dig deeper into this verse. What does a mighty, prevailing growth look like? Use the word studies on page 45 to help with describing this in a way that is meaningful to you.

2. Take time in prayer with these questions from page 46. What is the LORD speaking to you in response to these questions?
 - *Is the word of God increasing in me?*

 - *Am I enjoying a greater respect for the word of the Lord?*

 - *Is the word of God a resident strength in me?*

 - *Is the word of the Lord ruling over my life?*

 - *Has God’s word made me capable of doing greater works for the glory of Christ?*

Reflection 5: This reflection and response are centered on the chart from page 46. Give a few examples of how a *Means* can be demonstrated through ministry to impact your village/city/region.

For Example:

- **Praying & Demonstration of Power:** We can see healing and deliverance occur in our families, our homes, and public places throughout our city.
- **Preaching the Word:** We can see repentance and salvation in every aspect of our society.

NOTES

Chapter 4: A 20/20 Vision for Ministry

This chapter focuses on a pattern of discipleship that aligns with Jesus's ministry and the Early Church. We begin by examining the scriptures that show this.

❖ **READ** the entire chapter. If you are able, do this in one setting.

❖ **PAUSE**

After you read, go back and review the text. Take time to consider what you are reading. This is a lengthy chapter, including many passages of scripture as well as maps and charts. It may help to break this reading into at least three sections. A careful reading of the information will help us to lay a good foundation of understanding.

❖ **REFLECT and RESPOND**

Reflection 1: No reason is given for Paul remaining in Ephesus. What was accomplished is described with the Greek word, *pleroo*, meaning *full, to make full, to bring to completion that which is already done, finish, bring to a designed end, fulfill a prophecy, a promise, a purpose*. (p. 47)

- I. Consider the accomplishments listed on page 47 of the manual (the bullet point items). When you determine to move on from working with a given group or location, what would be some of the possible indicators? Which indicators can you confidently check as ministry accomplishments from the below list?

- ✓ **All have had an opportunity to hear the Word in that region.**
- ✓ **Many are being set free from demonic influences.**
- ✓ **Many are turning from their ways that do not honor God.**
- ✓ **A foundation of teaching has been laid.**
- ✓ **Recognize that every situation must be led by the Holy Spirit regardless of outward signs.**

Reflection 2: Read Acts 19:24-41. It is important for serious followers of Jesus Christ today to understand that the proclamation of Jesus Christ as the way, the truth, and the life accompanied by the continuation of His ministry in the power of the Holy Spirit will greatly agitate many people. (p. 50)

- I. What specifically created such an uproar and agitated response from the people of Ephesus to the ministry of Paul and his companions?
 - **Threats to financial livelihood and the potential of their goddess losing power.**
 - **Threats to their current way of living**
 - **Threats to the demonic spirits over the city.**

2. List some of the specific negative responses of the people of Ephesus. What eventually quieted them? Example: Full of wrath, confusion, etc.

3. Have you seen people get upset or even out of control during your ministry or the ministry of others? Describe one of these situations and how those ministering chose to respond. Based on your readings so far, would you have changed your response in any way?

Reflection 3: Read Acts 20: 1-17. *“This Miletus Leadership Conference is the only recorded sermon given by Paul exclusively to a group of leaders.”* (p. 55)

1. Page 56 of the manual notes that, *“Although there is a distinction between overseers and deacons in the Bible, there is none between elders and overseers.”* Record here some thoughts from this chapter that explain who elders are in the Early Church.
 - **Not the traditional pastoral staff that is present in many places.**
 - **The focus is on the Ephesians 4:11 leader gifts.**

2. Have you been involved in or been under the leadership of a team of elders that is based upon Ephesians 4:11 leader gifts? If yes, describe this in more detail. If not, describe the leadership styles that you have experienced so far.

3. “Paul provides the elders one overarching and active factor involved in serving the Lord and His Church: *“with all humility, with many tears and trials.”* (p. 59) What does humility look like in action? Describe your experience with humble leaders who have shared in the sufferings of Christ.
- **The correct estimate of ourselves.**
 - **Responding rightly to tears, temptations, and tribulations.**
4. “Paul shared with the Ephesian elders how he had taught them publicly and from house to house... *Although we are not opposed to church buildings, house church/fellowship networks are needed to effectively disciple new converts.”* (p. 63) What kinds of places have you met in to receive or to offer teaching and discipleship? Describe how you have learned in these different settings.
5. What does it look like to *shepherd the people and support the weak*? Look at the biblical examples in pages 63-66 of the manual. Also, consider the examples you have seen in your own life.
- **Providing spiritual oversight may include protecting the people from false doctrines.**
 - **Reminding that weakness is not always negative unless it is alongside a weakness of faith.**
 - **Going out as a giver, not seeking your own gain.**
 - **Remembering the words of the Lord, *“It is more blessed to give than to receive.”***

NOTES

Chapter 5: Activating the Ephesus Strategy

There is convincing evidence that the Ephesus Strategy will work anywhere in the world. We found the evidence in a most unlikely place: The Palorinya Refugee Settlement Camp inside Uganda strategically located at the border with South Sudan. This chapter will chronicle step by step how the Ephesus Strategy ignited revival fire that continues to reap the greater harvest of souls and make disciples throughout the camp.

❖ **READ** the entire chapter. If you are able, do this in one setting.

❖ **PAUSE**

After you read, go back and review the text. Take time to consider the reality of this story being told by Brother Michael: the people, the places, and the practical application.

❖ **REFLECT and RESPOND**

Reflection 1: *“Although many leaders contact 5-Fold Global, there are those where the Holy Spirit immediately bears witness that something important in God’s plan is about to take place and that I better intensify prayers, consult God’s word, and pay careful attention to what the Holy Spirit is speaking.” (pgs. 68-69)*

1. Do you know the story of how your leaders connected with 5-Fold Global? If not, ask them to give testimony regarding this.
2. Have you experienced a connection with another believer where the Holy Spirit immediately bore witness? What was your response?
3. Does your team pray together and consult His Word when establishing new alignments with other ministries or leaders? If yes, describe how this is practically done. If not, describe how you can do this together in the future.

Reflection 2: *“The Covid-19 lockdown was in full force during this time, making international travel impossible. 5-Fold Global, therefore, included Uganda in a 2021 Online Equipping Mission to release healing and deliverance in India. It proved to be a very effective operation not only for India but also for the refugee camp in Uganda.”* (p. 70)

1. Summarize the testimony given by Brother Edward on page 70. Identify the specific strategies God gave him for going out into the camp.

2. Have you ever experienced a significant shift in an initial plan of ministry and seen amazing results to the glory of God? If yes, describe what you learned.

Reflection 3: *“We first established in prayer and consultation with Brother Edward the following team vision and mission objectives: (p. 71) “I pray you can see that activating the Ephesus Strategy begins with finding the disciples and ensuring they are filled with the Holy Spirit in the same manner as in Ephesus and the New Testament Church. This is not an option but a matter of obedience in following the commands of Jesus Christ Himself.”* (p. 73)

1. Consider the next outreach that you and your team are planning. Do you have a vision and objectives for the outreach? Are they on target? Are they aligned with what you see in the ministry of Jesus, the Apostles, and the Early Church? Review these things in prayer and describe them in detail. Adjust as necessary under the leadership of the Holy Spirit.

2. The first objective for this location was to find twelve young disciples. Describe how Brother Edward went about the selection of the twelve. Do you see any connection with the ministry in Ephesus?
 - a. **He set 3 days for prayer and fasting for selection.**
 - b. **He, by the Holy Spirit, selected 8 men and 4 women.**
 - c. **Before moving forward, they all prayed for and received the baptism of the Holy Spirit.**

Reflection 4: Now that the twelve young leaders chosen by God in the camp were filled with the power and fire of the Holy Spirit, it was time to equip them in the ministry of Jesus and God's way of making disciples (p. 74)

- I. Describe how Brother Edward set up a training process for the twelve at Fishers of Men Rapid Deployment Training Center (RDTC). What aspects of the Ephesus Strategy does his plan coincide with?
 - **He prayed and communicated with the 12 on the practical process of setting up a weekly training schedule.**
 - **He developed with 5-Fold Global a 2-year training curriculum map that utilized over 20 free online training manuals.**
 - **The 12 learned from Edward and with his oversight were sent out right away to teach and minister in the home church fellowships what they had learned.**

2. Record here some of the exciting testimonies from this process as shown on page 76 of the manual.
 - **The 12 were eagerly learning and completing the training courses.**
 - **They continued in their service to the Lord, month after month.**

3. Have you considered the value of immediately releasing young disciples to teach and minister in the power of the Holy Spirit what they have just been taught? What are the positive outcomes that will arise from this process? Be sure to consider the role of appropriate oversight when releasing them.
 - **This is a very practical way of learning by doing. Any errors or gaps in learning can be identified and corrected.**
 - **Young disciples can immediately begin to see the fruit of their commitment to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ.**

Reflection 5: *“The 5-Fold Global Mission to the Palorinya Refugee Settlement Camp in March 2022 was one of the most difficult operations we have done...However, we were being sent by the Holy Spirit. Although we were confident that the Lord, like Paul in Ephesus, had opened a great and effective door for us, we were clearly aware that there were also many adversaries (1 Cor. 16:9).” (p. 77)*

1. Have you experienced a ‘high risk’ outreach? Describe some of the challenges that were before you.
2. Based on this story, why is it so vital to be confident when you go that you are being sent by the Holy Spirit? When great challenges arise or changes in the original plan are presented to you, you need to be confident that God has a plan and you are walking in it moment by moment.
3. After reviewing pages 79-81, list some of the fruit that came from this Mission. Note: The harvest of souls totaled 3,822 over a 21-month period and by February 2024 reached 6,627 new converts. Using the Jesus Film strategy complemented the Ephesus Strategy and increased their effectiveness in the region.
4. *“What ministry pattern or strategy are you engaged in or planning to engage in? Are you following the conventional plan of many churches whose membership classes, standard/staged worship services, and social programs continue to produce more spectators while the greater harvest remains unreached?” (p. 85).* Extend this conversation if your group is ready to do so. Consider what strategies are available to complement the Ephesus Strategy in your village/city/region. Compare how you are doing ministry and making disciples with the Ephesus Strategy.

Final Reflections

“The Ephesus Strategy presented in this training manual addresses the situation Jesus and the Holy Spirit spoke of in Ephesus and among the Laodiceans. Although the church of Ephesus and Laodicea both reflect in obvious ways the church today, the Ephesus Strategy, when obediently and fully activated will change and overcome the lifeless and religious formalities that exist in many churches around the world. If you desire, like many do today, to see revival fire and the greater harvest in your village, city or region, then you will pay careful attention to do what has been presented in this training manual. I pray this visual summary of some of the key features of the Ephesus Strategy and how it closely aligns with the ministry of Jesus and the Early Church will cause you to prayerfully consider its value today.” (p. 86)

- Pray and thank the Lord for the model and example of Brother Edward and the fruit that has resulted in this place.
- Review the Steps for Preparation on page 87. Have you started any of these steps already? Are you prepared to begin or continue moving forward with the Ephesus Strategy? Write down your thoughts and future plans.

“Get ready to arise and shine for the glory of Christ. This is how you can move forward with the Ephesus Strategy. No matter what is taking place, no matter the circumstances you are facing, regardless of your situation in ministry, the Ephesus Strategy will work. Why will it work? Because it is aligned with the ministry of Jesus. It has His endorsement. It is how the Apostles and the Early Church did ministry in the midst of adversities and persecutions. It begins and continues in the power of the Holy Spirit. This is why it worked then, and this is why it will work for you.” (p. 87)

NOTES

About the Author

Heidi C Daniels, D. Min., M.A. Ed



Dr. Heidi Daniels from Ohio, USA has been working in partnership with 5-Fold Global Ministries since 2007. She has served as a teacher and educational consultant in the church, business, and government organizations. Her passion is to see the body of Christ equipped to make disciples throughout the world.