



# course guide

**session notes**

**developed by MomentumYes**





Jesus deserves to be known throughout the world. We have a place in God's story, and there is still work to be done. Sometimes that feels overwhelming, and it's hard to know where to start.

MomentumYes is a free online video series that shows people how God is moving in the world and inspires them to live out their place in God's story.

For more information including the MomentumYes videos, visit [MomentumYes.com](https://MomentumYes.com).



# RETHINK

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MomentumYes inspires people globally to find their place in God's story. Please enjoy the British spellings in the video graphics. Captions and the Course Guide are available in American English.

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Perspective is a powerful thing. It has the ability to take something you have seen hundreds of times—something that is totally familiar—and then, with a shift, completely change the way you view it forever.

# RETHINK PERSPECTIVE

## Welcome to MomentumYes!

In this series, we hope you will rethink church, your neighbors, how you approach the Bible, God's mission on this earth, and your part in his story.

God is moving, and we hope that MomentumYes will open your eyes to his plan and purpose that cannot be stopped.

Our prayer is that your hearts would become more in sync with the heart of Jesus for those who have never heard the gospel, and that every follower of Christ would say “yes” to joining his movement in strategic new ways.

## Perspective Matters

### China – A New Perspective

In the midst of the Communist Revolution, following World War II, the church in China experienced tremendous growth despite persecution.<sup>1</sup>

#### 1949

China becomes Communist.

There were [750,000 Christians](#).

#### Today

China has [85 million Christians](#).



**CHINA AND THE  
UNITED STATES  
HAVE ROUGHLY  
THE SAME NUMBER  
OF CHRISTIANS.**

**That's momentum!**

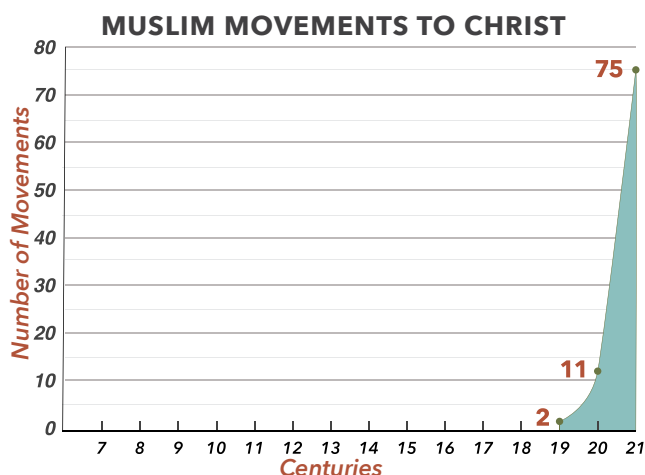


## Muslim World – A New Perspective

Countries in the Middle East, Asia, and North Africa that are predominantly Muslim are often resistant to any form of religion other than Islam.

### Movements to Christ

More than a thousand individuals baptized, or more than a hundred Christian churches are planted in a region within a twenty-year window.



Since 2000, we've seen seventy-five movements of people leaving Islam to join the family of Jesus in countries like Iran, Algeria, Malaysia, and Pakistan.<sup>2</sup>

University students, families, Islamic prayer leaders, Syrian refugees, and even trained terrorists are coming to know Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.

### That's momentum!

*Jesus said, "I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it."*

**Matthew 16:18**

## The World around Us – A More Complete Picture

Approximately 7.5 billion people in the world today.

**Three billion people**, or 40 percent of the world's population today, have little to no opportunity to learn the truth about Jesus.

**THE CHURCH IS IN A STRONG POSITION TO MAKE THE GOSPEL AVAILABLE TO THE REMAINING 40% OF THE WORLD'S PEOPLE.**

If the current trajectory continues, this could happen in our lifetime!

**Throughout MomentumYes, we're going to look at the vision of Jesus, the Bible, and the world around us with new eyes!**

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Coming into this course, how would you describe your perspective on God's work among the nations?
2. How do you hope that your perspective might change as a result of going through the MomentumYes course?
3. What struck you as we zoomed out to view God's perspective on China or the Muslim world?

# RETHINK PERSPECTIVE

## Perspective on the Old Testament

### **Building the Tower of Babel –** [Genesis 11:1-9](#)

#### **Traditional Perspective**

Prideful humans built a tower to reach heaven. God disciplined them by scattering them throughout the world with multiple languages.

#### **Expanded Perspective**

The Tower of Babel is a story of cultural diversity. The Lord redirected humanity to do what he had originally commanded in [Genesis 1:28](#).

### **God spoke to Abraham –** [Genesis 12:1-3](#)

#### **Traditional Perspective**

Abraham is promised a nation of descendants, even in his old age without any children of his own.

#### **Expanded Perspective**

The Lord wants to use Abraham's descendants to bless and reach every nation on earth!

**FROM THE VERY  
BEGINNING, GOD'S  
DESIRE WAS TO SEE  
PEOPLE FROM EVERY  
NATION, LANGUAGE,  
AND ETHNICITY IN  
RELATIONSHIP  
WITH HIM.**

### **Daniel in the Lions' Den –** [Daniel 6](#)

#### **Traditional Perspective**

Daniel trusted in the Lord in the midst of trials. He stood his ground and trusted in God's protection.

#### **Expanded Perspective**

After Daniel survived the hungry lions, King Darius of Babylon declared this to all the people in his kingdom:

*"Peace and prosperity to you!  
I decree that everyone throughout my kingdom should tremble with fear before the God of Daniel. For he is the living God,*



*and he will endure forever. His kingdom will never be destroyed, and his rule will never end."*

**Daniel 6:25-26 NLT**

This declaration of a pagan king was spoken because God wanted the whole world to know about him.

### **The Great Banquet - [Isaiah 25](#)**

Seven hundred years before Jesus, the prophet Isaiah describes what it will be like when the Lord's plan is finally accomplished. He describes it as a banquet, saying:

*In Jerusalem, the Lord of Heaven's Armies will spread a wonderful feast for all the people of the world. It will be a delicious banquet with clear, well-aged wine and choice meat. There he will remove the cloud of gloom, the shadow of death that hangs over the earth. He will swallow up death forever!*

**Isaiah 25:6-8 NLT**

### **Traditional Perspective**

An amazing party to celebrate the defeat of death.

### **Expanded Perspective**

All the people of the world are invited to the banquet! The promise that God gave to Abraham will finally be fulfilled because all people who have given their lives to Jesus are able to see his ultimate blessing become a reality.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. From the Old Testament Scriptures that were just discussed, what broadens your perspective?
2. How did the Isaiah 25 banquet inspire or challenge you?
3. Click the button to see how God has shown us the nations throughout all of Scripture. What is your reaction to seeing this list?

**[Nations throughout Scripture.](#)**

# RETHINK PERSPECTIVE

Perspective on  
the New Testament

**THROUGHOUT ALL OF  
SCRIPTURE, GOD IS  
RELENTLESS ABOUT  
SEEING HIS ENTIRE  
CREATION REDEEMED.**

## **Jesus Announces His Ministry – [Luke 4:18-19](#)**

Jesus is baptized and then spends forty days in the wilderness, successfully resisting the temptations from the devil.

He returns to Nazareth (his hometown), stands up in the synagogue on the Sabbath, and begins to read from [Isaiah 61](#).

*“The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”*

**Luke 4:18-19**

This passage was popular in Christ’s time because it refers to the Jewish people receiving justice for the wrongs the nations have done to them throughout history.

But Jesus leaves out the part of the passage that mentions punishment for Israel’s enemies. Instead, he hands the scroll back and adds,

*“Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.”*

**Luke 4:21**

**He’s announcing that HE is the ONE, whom this passage was written about seven hundred years earlier in Isaiah. He is the MESSIAH.**

This statement shocks the people listening, and then Jesus tells two familiar Old Testament stories to ensure they fully understand. These stories concern God favoring non-Jews.

- [Elijah](#) was sent to a nearby country to care for the needs of a desperate widow and her son during a famine.
- [Elisha](#) healed a leper, who was the commanding general of the Syrian army.

The Lord’s amazing grace is for Jews and non-Jews alike!

The people were not seeing these stories from the Lord's perspective. They viewed Scripture only from their own lens and how it personally affected them. **And the truth is that we do exactly the same thing.**

### Jesus Engaged People Who Were Not Jewish

Jesus intentionally engaged people from other nations.

He spent the majority of his ministry in Galilee, a region known for being predominantly non-Jewish.

### Christ's Five Declarations of Mission

Jesus culminated his life on earth with some incredible declarations about the nations and what we were made for as his disciples.

- 1. Matthew 28:19** – “Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”
- 2. Mark 16:15** – “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.”
- 3. Luke 24:47** – “Repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.”
- 4. John 20:21** – “As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” Jesus was saying that the Father sent him with a powerful message of redemption for all nations. Christ wants us to know that our identity as followers of Jesus rests in this

idea of being sent to our neighbors and to the nations!

- 5. Acts 1:8** – “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

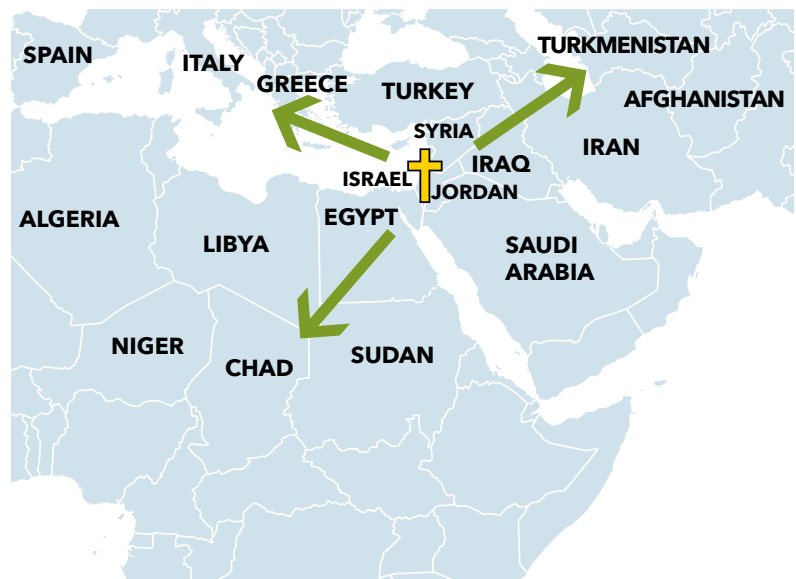
**Jesus declares that the same Spirit who empowers him will now empower his disciples to make new disciples, among every nation on earth, and nothing will stand in their way. This is the power of the good news of Jesus Christ!**

### The Launch of the Church

Thousands of God-fearing Jews from many nations were in Jerusalem at the feast of Pentecost, and Peter preached the gospel!

Three thousand people gave their lives to Jesus that day and were baptized. The church began to grow!

Everyday people empowered by the Holy Spirit spread the good news about Christ throughout the known world.



**In the last book of the Bible, a song is being sung to Jesus in heaven:**

*“with your blood you purchased for God persons from EVERY TRIBE and LANGUAGE and PEOPLE and NATION.”*

**Revelation 5:9**

**SEEING THE GOSPEL  
COMMUNICATED TO  
ALL PEOPLES SHOULD  
BE A MAJOR PRIORITY  
AS HIS DISCIPLES UNTIL  
JESUS COMES AGAIN.**

From the first book of the Bible to the last one, we experience the Lord's

perspective and his great desire for people from every ethnicity to be worshiping Jesus!

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What stands out to you from Christ's interactions with people? How does that relate to God's perspective on other nations in the Old Testament?
2. If the Lord blesses, heals, and loves the people of the nations throughout Scripture, how can we—as believers—follow his example?
3. Did your perspective change after completing session 1? If so, how?

## SESSION 1 — FOOTNOTE

1. Persecution of Christians in China has occurred since the Communist Revolution, through the Chinese Cultural Revolution and even up to today.
2. David Garrison, “Looking Back,” in *Wind in the House of Islam: How God Is Drawing Muslims around the World to Faith in Jesus* (Monument, CO: WIGTake Resources, 2014), 226. Since Garrison's book was published, the 24:14 Coalition has been documenting movements to Christ around the world. In December 2022, they reported 232 Church Planting Movements in the Arab World. You can see current statistics on their Global Dashboard at [2414now.net/resources](https://2414now.net/resources).

## SESSION 1 — APPENDIX

### Nations throughout Scripture

#### Old Testament Verses

##### Genesis 1:1

“God created the heavens and the earth.”

##### Genesis 9:17

God’s covenant with “all life on the earth.”

##### Genesis 12:1–3

God’s promise to Abraham (repeated in Genesis 18:18; 22:17–18; 26:4; 28:12–14).

##### Exodus 9:14–16

“I have raised you up for this very purpose ... that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth.”

##### Exodus 19:6

Israel was to be a “kingdom of priests.”

##### Numbers 14:21

“Glory of the Lord fills the whole earth.”

##### Deuteronomy 4:6–8

“Show your wisdom and understanding to the nations.”

##### Deuteronomy 10:19

“You are to love those who are foreigners.”

##### Deuteronomy 28:10

“All the peoples on earth will see that you are called by the name of the Lord.”

##### Deuteronomy 32:1

“Hear, you earth, the words of my mouth.”

##### Joshua 4:24

“So that all the peoples of the earth might know.”

##### 1 Samuel 2:10

“The Lord will judge the ends of the earth.”

##### 1 Samuel 17:46

“The whole world will know that there is a God in Israel.”

##### 1 Kings 8:41–43, 59–60

(also in 2 Chronicles 6:32–33)

“So that all the peoples of the earth may know your name.”

##### 2 Kings 19:15, 19

“Hezekiah prayed ... ‘Lord ... you alone are God over all the kingdoms of the earth.’”

##### 1 Chronicles 16:23–24

“Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples.”

##### 1 Chronicles 16:28

“Families of nations, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.”

##### 1 Chronicles 16:31

“Let the earth be glad; let them say among the nations, ‘The Lord reigns!’”

##### 2 Chronicles 6:32–33

“So that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you.”

##### Psalms 2:7–10

“You are my son .... I will make the nations your inheritance.”

##### Psalms 7:7–8

“Let the Lord judge the peoples.”

##### Psalms 8:9

“How majestic is your name in all the earth!”

##### Psalms 9:11

“Proclaim among the nations what he has done.”

##### Psalms 18:49

“I will praise you, Lord, among the nations.”

##### Psalms 19:4

“Their words to the ends of the world.”

##### Psalms 22:26–28

“All the families of the nations will bow down.”

##### Psalms 22:27

“All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the Lord.”

##### Psalms 24

“The earth is the Lord’s.”

##### Psalms 33

“Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord.”

**Psalm 45:17**

"The nations will praise you for ever and ever."

**Psalm 46:10**

"I will be exalted among the nations."

**Psalm 47**

"God reigns over the nations."

**Psalm 48:10**

"Like your name, O God, your praise reaches to the ends of the earth."

**Psalm 49:1**

"Hear this, all you peoples; listen, all who live in this world."

**Psalm 50**

"From the rising of the sun to where it sets."

**Psalm 57**

"I will sing of you among the peoples."

**Psalm 59:13**

"It will be known to the ends of the earth that God rules over Jacob."

**Psalm 65:5–8**

"The hope of all the ends of the earth ... where morning dawns, where evening fades, you call forth songs of joy."

**Psalm 66**

"All the earth bows down to you .... Praise our God, all peoples."

**Psalm 67**

"Your salvation among all nations."

**Psalm 68:32**

"Sing to God, you kingdoms of the earth."

**Psalm 72:9**

"The desert tribes bow before him."

**Psalm 72:11**

"All nations serve him."

**Psalm 72:17, 19**

"All nations will be blessed through him .... May the whole earth be filled with his glory."

**Psalm 77:14**

"You display your power among the peoples."

**Psalm 82**

"All the nations are your inheritance."

**Psalm 83:18**

"You alone are the Most High over all the earth."

**Psalm 86:8–13**

"All the nations ... will come and worship."

**Psalm 87**

"The register of the peoples."

**Psalm 96**

"Sing to the Lord, all the earth.... Declare his glory among the nations."

**Psalm 97**

"The Lord reigns, let the earth be glad; let the distant shores rejoice."

**Psalm 98:3**

"All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God."

**Psalm 98:9**

"He comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples with equity."

**Psalm 99:1–3**

"He is exalted over all the nations. Let them praise your great and awesome name."

**Psalm 102:15**

"The nations will fear the name of the Lord, all the kings of the earth will revere your glory."

**Psalm 102:22**

"When the peoples and the kingdoms assemble to worship the Lord."

**Psalm 105:1**

"Make known among the nations what he has done."

**Psalm 106:8**

Reason for dividing the Red Sea.

**Psalm 107:2–3**

"The redeemed of the Lord ... those he gathered from the lands, from east and west, from north and south."

**Psalm 108:3**

"I will sing of you among the peoples."

**Psalm 108:5**

"Be exalted, O God, above the heavens; let your glory be over all the earth."

**Psalm 110:6**

"He will judge the nations."

**Psalm 113:3**

"From the rising of the sun to the place where it sets, the name of the Lord is to be praised."

**Psalm 117**

"Praise the Lord, all you nations."

**Psalm 126**

"It was said among the nations."

**Psalm 135**

"Our Lord is greater than all gods."

**Psalm 138:4**

"May all the kings of the earth praise you, Lord."

**Ecclesiastes 3:11**

"[God] has also set eternity in the human heart."

**Isaiah 2:3**

"Many peoples will come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the temple of the God of Jacob.'"

**Isaiah 5:26**

"He lifts up a banner for the distant nations, he whistles for those at the ends of the earth."

**Isaiah 6:3**

"They were calling to one another: 'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory.'"

**Isaiah 11:9**

"The earth will be filled with the knowledge of the Lord."

**Isaiah 11:10**

"The Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to him."

**Isaiah 12:4**

"Make known among the nations what he has done."

**Isaiah 24:14–16**

"From the ends of the earth we hear singing: 'Glory to the Righteous One.'"

**Isaiah 25:6**

"The Lord Almighty will prepare a feast of rich food for all peoples."

**Isaiah 34:1**

"Come near, you nations, and listen; pay attention, you peoples!"

**Isaiah 37:16**

"Lord Almighty ... you alone are God over all the kingdoms of the earth."

**Isaiah 37:20**

"Deliver us ... so that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that you, Lord, are the only God."

**Isaiah 42:4**

"In his teaching the islands will put their hope."

**Isaiah 42:6**

"I will keep you and will make you to be a covenant for the people and a light for the Gentiles."

**Isaiah 42:10**

"Sing to the Lord a new song, his praise from the ends of the earth."

**Isaiah 43:6**

"I will say to the north, 'Give them up!' and to the south, 'Do not hold them back.'"

**Isaiah 45:6**

"From the rising of the sun to the place of its setting people may know there is none besides me."

**Isaiah 45:22**

"Turn to me ... all you ends of the earth."

**Isaiah 49:1–6**

"I will also make you a light for the Gentiles."

**Isaiah 49:22**

"The Sovereign Lord says: 'See, I will beckon to the nations, I will lift up my banner to the peoples.'"

**Isaiah 51:4–5**

"My justice will become a light to the nations.... The islands will look to me and wait in hope for my arm."

**Isaiah 52:10**

"The Lord will lay bare his holy arm in the sight of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth will see the salvation of our God."

**Isaiah 56:7**

"My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations."

**Isaiah 57:19**

"Peace, peace, to those far and near .... I will heal them."

**Isaiah 59:19**

"From the west, people will fear the name of the Lord, and from the rising of the sun, they will revere his glory."

**Isaiah 60:3**

"Nations will come to your light."

**Isaiah 62:11**

"The Lord has made proclamation to the ends of the earth."



**Isaiah 65:1**

"I revealed myself to those who did not ask for me."

**Isaiah 66:18–19**

"They will proclaim my glory among the nations."

**Jeremiah 1:5**

"I appointed you as a prophet to the nations."

**Jeremiah 3:17**

"All nations will gather in Jerusalem to honor the name of the Lord."

**Jeremiah 16:19**

"To you the nations will come from the ends of the earth and say, 'Our ancestors possessed nothing but false gods, worthless idols that did them no good.'"

**Jeremiah 31:10**

"Hear the word of the Lord, you nations; proclaim it in distant coastlands."

**Ezekiel 34:4, 6**

"My sheep were scattered over the whole earth, and no one searched or looked for them."

**Ezekiel 36:22–23**

"The nations will know that I am the Lord."

**Ezekiel 38:20**

"All the people on the face of the earth will tremble at my presence."

**Daniel 2:47; 4:1–2; 6:25**

"Surely your God is the God of gods."

**Daniel 7:13, 14**

"All nations and peoples of every language worshiped him."

**Jonah's story**

The Old Testament missionary book.

**Micah 1:2**

"Hear, you peoples, all of you, listen, earth and all who live in it."

**Micah 4:2**

"Many nations will come."

**Micah 5:4**

"His greatness will reach to the ends of the earth."

**Habakkuk 2:14**

"The earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea."

**Zephaniah 2:11**

"Distant nations will bow down to him."

**Zephaniah 3:9**

"Then will I purify the lips of the peoples, that all of them may call on the name of the Lord."

**Haggai 2:7**

"Desired by all nations."

**Zechariah 2:11**

"Many nations will be joined with the Lord in that day and will become my people."

**Zechariah 8:20–23**

"Many peoples and the inhabitants of many cities will yet come."

**Zechariah 9:10**

"He will proclaim peace to the nations."

**Zechariah 14:9**

"The Lord will be king over the whole earth."

**Malachi 1:10–11**

"My name will be great among the nations, from where the sun rises to where it sets."

**New Testament Verses****Matthew 4:8–11 — Temptation of Jesus**

"All the kingdoms of the world."

**Matthew 6:9–10 — The Lord's Prayer**

"Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth."

**Matthew 8:11 (Luke 13:29)**

"Many will come from the east and the west, and will take their places at the feast ... in the kingdom of heaven."

**Matthew 9:37**

"Harvest is plentiful but the workers are few."

**Matthew 10:18**

"On my account you will be brought before governors and kings as witnesses to them and to the Gentiles."

**Matthew 13 (Ezekiel 17:23)**

Parables of the sower, weeds, mustard seed, fishing net.

**Matthew 21:13 (Isaiah 56:7)**

"A house of prayer for all nations."

**Matthew 24:14**

"This gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world."

**Matthew 28:19–20; Mark 16:15**

The Great Commission (which many say is a restatement of God's promise to Abraham in Genesis 12).

**Mark 11:17**

See Matthew 21:13.

**Mark 13:10**

"The gospel must first be preached to all nations."

**Mark 16:15**

See Matthew 28:19–20.

**Luke 2:32**

"A light for revelation to the Gentiles."

**Luke 10:2**

"Harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few."  
(See John 4:35.)

**Luke 10:27**

"Love your neighbor as yourself."

**Luke 15:4**

Parable of the lost sheep.

**Luke 19:46**

See Matthew 21:13.

**Luke 24:47**

"Repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached ... to all nations."

**John 3:16**

"For God so loved the world."

**John 4:35**

Ripe harvest fields.  
(See Luke 10:2 and Matthew 9:37.)

**John 12:32**

"I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself."

**John 17:23**

"The world will know that you sent me and have loved them."

**John 20:21**

"As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."

**John 21:4–14**

Some biblical commentators have said the 153 fish equal the number of all the tribes and nations that the ancients thought existed on earth.

**Acts 1:8; 2:5–12; 13:47 (Isaiah 49:6)**

Witnesses in all the earth.

**Acts 3:25**

"He said to Abraham, 'Through your offspring all peoples on earth will be blessed.'"

**Acts 9:15**

"Go! This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings."

**Acts 10:34–35**

"God ... accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right."

**Acts 11:18**

"They ... praised God, saying, 'So then, even to Gentiles God has granted repentance that leads to life.'"

**Acts 13:47**

"I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth" (Isaiah 49:6).

**Acts 14:27**

"They ... reported all that God had done through them and how he had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles."

**Acts 28:28**

"Therefore I want you to know that God's salvation has been sent to the Gentiles, and they will listen!"

**Romans 1:5**

"We received grace and apostleship to call all the Gentiles to obedience."

**Romans 1:16**

"The gospel ... is the power of God that brings salvation ... first to the Jew, then to the Gentile."

**Romans 3:29**

"Is God the God of Jews only? Is he not the God of Gentiles too? Yes, of Gentiles too."

**Romans 9:17**

"That my name might be proclaimed in all the earth."

**Romans 10:12–15**

"How can they hear?"

**Romans 15:10**

"Rejoice, you Gentiles, with his people" (Deuteronomy 32:43).

**Romans 15:11**

"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles; let all the peoples extol him" (Psalm 117:1).

**Romans 16:26**

So that all nations might believe.

**1 Corinthians 1:24**

“To those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks.”

**2 Corinthians 4:15**

“Grace that is reaching more and more people.”

**2 Corinthians 10:16**

“So that we can preach the gospel in the regions beyond you.”

**Galatians 3:8**

“Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and announced the gospel in advance to Abraham: ‘All nations will be blessed through you’” (Genesis 12:3; 18:18; 22:18).

**Galatians 3:14**

“He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles.”

**Ephesians 1:10**

“To bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.”

**Ephesians 2:11–19**

“You are no longer foreigners and strangers.”

**Philippians 2:10**

“Every knee should bow.”

**1 Thessalonians 2:15–16**

“To keep us from speaking to the Gentiles so that they may be saved.”

**Hebrews 6:13–14**

“God made his promise to Abraham.”

**2 Peter 3:9, 12**

“Not wanting anyone to perish.”

**1 John 2:2**

“He is the atoning sacrifice ... for the sins of the whole world.”

**Revelation 5:9**

“You purchased for God persons from every tribe and language and people and nation.”

**Revelation 7:9**

“Every nation, tribe, people and language.”

**Revelation 14:6**

The “angel ... had the eternal gospel to proclaim to those who live on the earth — to every nation, tribe, language and people.”

**Revelation 15:4**

“All nations will come and worship before you.”

**Revelation 21:23–24**

“The Lamb is its lamp. The nations will walk by its light.”



In our last session, we focused on how perspective impacts our view of the world and the Bible. God is relentlessly pursuing all peoples from Genesis to Revelation.

Next, we will rethink mission: the status of the church today and the work that is yet to be accomplished for Jesus to be famous throughout the world.

# RETHINK MISSION

## Current Status of the Church

### Disciples –

People who follow and obey Jesus. Those who have made Christ and his Word, the Bible, the ultimate authority in their lives.

*“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations ....”*

**Matthew 28:18-19**

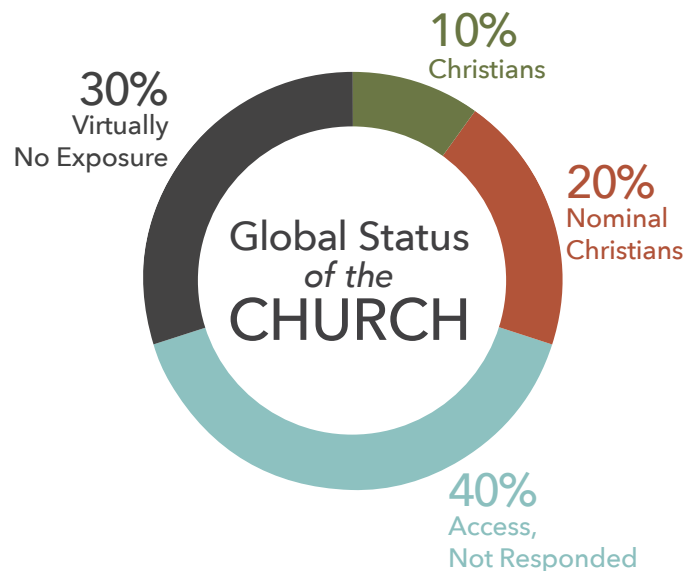
### Mission –

Matthew 28:18-20 is sometimes called the Great Commission, in which Christ told his disciples to make disciples, who would then make more disciples.

**CHRISTIANS OR  
DISCIPLES ARE PEOPLE  
WHO ARE SAYING YES  
TO JESUS, ARE BEING  
TRANSFORMED BY  
HIM, AND WANT  
TO PARTICIPATE  
IN HIS MISSION.**

**God’s grand mission is seeing all of creation restored to perfection. That means:**

- You
- Your neighbor
- Your nation
- Every nation on earth



**Global data (based on 7.5 billion people worldwide and rounded for simplicity):**

- 10 percent are true Christian disciples.
- 20 percent are “Nominal Christians.” These individuals attend church on Christmas or Easter, check the “Christian” box on a census form, or were born into a Christian family, but don’t experience a daily, life-changing relationship with Jesus.
- 40 percent may have heard the gospel and have some access to it, but aren’t responding to it. For instance, Western Europeans have access to Scripture and

church, yet very few are saying yes to Jesus.

- 30 percent have virtually no exposure to the gospel, the Bible, or the church.

**THE IDEA THAT  
30% OF PEOPLE  
WORLDWIDE HAVE  
NOT EVEN HAD A  
CHANCE TO HEAR THE  
GOSPEL, LET ALONE  
RESPOND TO IT,  
SHOULD BOTHER US!**



Where in the world  
is God moving?

## Where in the World Is God Moving?

### The Philippines

- Grown from three thousand churches in 1975 to fifty-five thousand churches today. <sup>1</sup>
- Developing a plan to send five thousand missionaries to the nations in the next fifteen years. <sup>2</sup>

### South Korea

- At the turn of the twentieth century, the Christian presence was minimal. <sup>3</sup>
- Today, **17 percent** of South Koreans are Christians.
- Only five countries in the entire world send out more missionaries to the field. <sup>4</sup>

### Iran

- Five hundred known followers of Jesus in 1979. <sup>5</sup>
- More than a hundred thousand today! <sup>6</sup>

### China

- In the 1300s, the entire church was all but wiped out due to persecution.
- Starting in the 1950s, a radical movement began that has resulted in **85 million** disciples of Christ today—as many as there are in the United States!

**IF WE VIEW OUR  
SPIRITUAL FAMILY  
ONLY FROM OUR  
OWN PERSPECTIVE,  
WE'RE MISSING OUT  
ON THE INCREDIBLE,  
ENCOURAGING  
GLOBAL MOVEMENT  
OF CHRIST'S CHURCH.**

On average, the world population has been increasing by 1.5 percent since 1900. Christianity has been growing at an average rate of 3.5 percent, **which is more than twice as fast as the human population!** <sup>7</sup>

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How did the statistics about the global status of the Church challenge you?
2. What is your response to the stories of God's kingdom growing across the world?
3. Have you met a Christian from another culture? If so, what have you learned from them about following Jesus?



# RETHINK MISSION

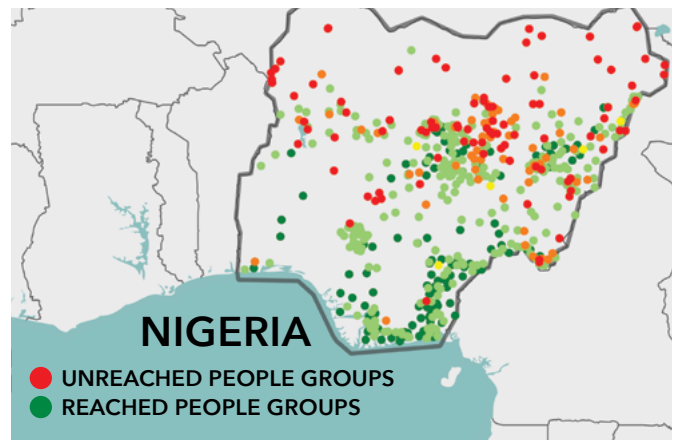
## Task Remaining and Challenges Ahead

### People Group –

A group of people who share a common language, culture, heritage, beliefs, and geography, as well as barriers to the gospel.

### Nations –

When Jesus commands us to “make disciples of all nations,” the word he uses for ‘nation’ is the Greek word ‘ethne,’ like ethnic groups or people groups.



### Example: Nigeria

Looking at Nigeria as a map of people groups, shows there are **543 people groups** clustered all over the country.

The question changes from, “Are there Christians in Nigeria?” to “Are there Christians in all 543 nations within Nigeria?”

### Reached People Groups –

When the gospel is being reproduced by local churches and the Christians have the potential to transform their communities.

### Unreached People Groups –

Lack enough followers of Christ, along with resources, to evangelize their own people.

## UNREACHED PEOPLE GROUPS HAVE LITTLE OR NO ACCESS TO THE GOSPEL, THE BIBLE, OR A CHURCH.

There are **17,000 people groups** in the world today.

**7,000 of those groups** are still unreached.

**Unreached people groups represent 3 billion people.**

India, China, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Nepal alone contain 3,658 unreached people groups. <sup>8</sup>

**India**, by itself, has one-third of the world's unreached people groups!

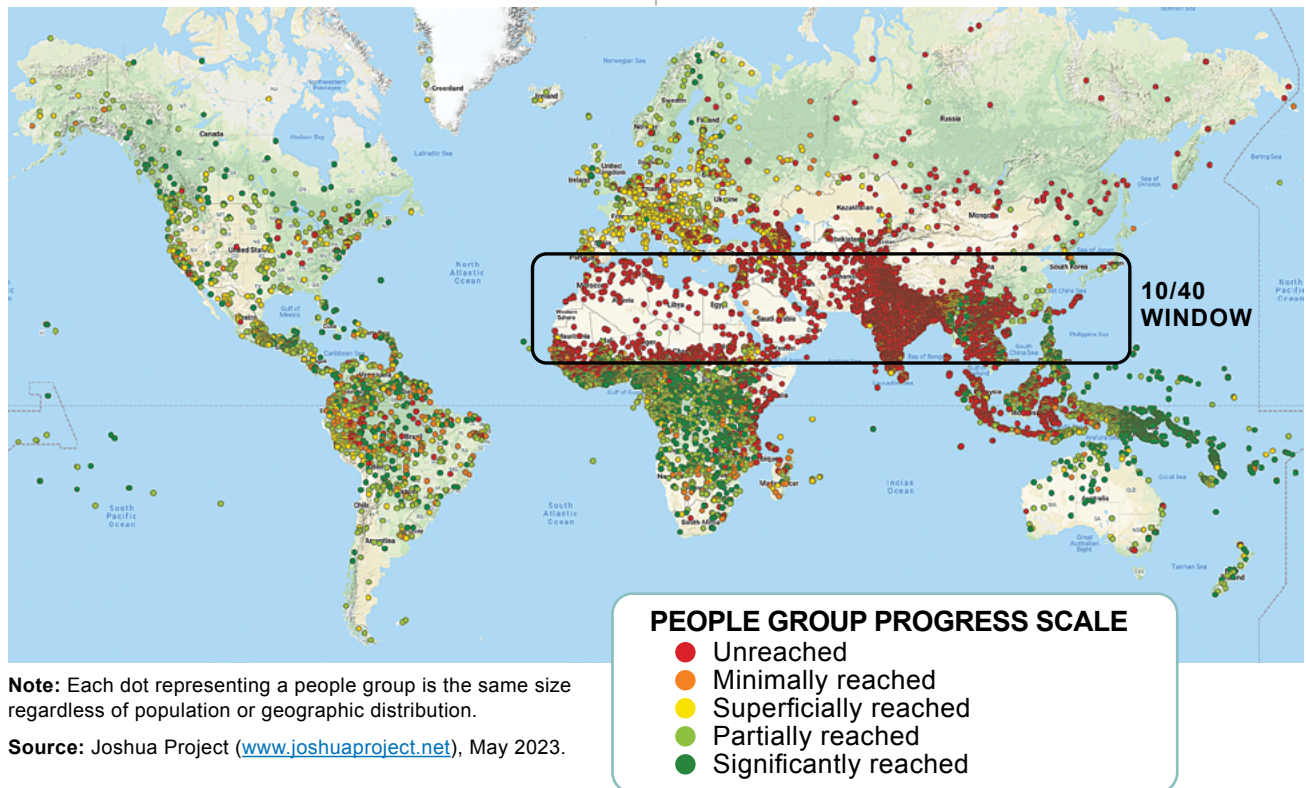
### 10/40 Window

- Area between the 10th and 40th latitude—spanning North Africa, the Middle East, and Asia.
- 95 percent of the world's unreached peoples live here.
- The majority of the world's Hindus, Muslims, and Buddhists live here.
- **Two out of every three** people live in the 10/40 window.
- Five out of six unreached people groups are in this region.
- Sixty thousand of those who die daily in the 10/40 window have never heard the gospel. <sup>9</sup>

### Jesus declared that

*"I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it."*

**Matthew 16:18**



This fundamental piece of our mission is possible because God has declared it to be so. Not only is it possible, it's gaining momentum that can't be stopped.

A big part of why these groups have not been reached is that they are hard to reach due to geographic, language, and cultural barriers.

**10% OF WORKERS  
AND LESS THAN  
1% OF FINANCIAL  
RESOURCES ARE  
GOING TO WHERE  
95% OF UNREACHED  
PEOPLE LIVE.**

We can do better than that! [10](#)

## Hope for the Future

- Coca-Cola is one of the most recognizable brands in the entire world. We have a message that is more life-changing than any drink. [11](#)
- In 1970, 45 percent of people had never heard the good news, and currently that number is 30 percent! [12](#)

The question isn't whether or not God's kingdom has momentum, but the question is: **"Are we going to say yes and join the momentum of God's kingdom?"**

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How does the idea of people groups impact the way you think about the Great Commission Jesus gave us?
2. What stood out to you about the remaining task, especially that 30 percent of the world has virtually no exposure to the gospel, the Bible, or a church?
3. How could the church (including you personally) respond in a way that honors the Lord and the people in these parts of the world?

# RETHINK MISSION

## Importance of Prayer

**Prayer has been the driving force behind the momentum of the church for centuries.**

### **Example: Indonesia**

Indonesia is a group of islands in Southeast Asia with the world's largest Muslim population.

A [massive prayer movement](#) in Indonesia has connected more than 5 million believers, from five hundred cities, in praying for the salvation of their people and the world.

Not a single hour of one day has gone by since the year 2000, without prayers being lifted up for Indonesia and the world.

Indonesia had a hundred prayer towers as of 2018. <sup>13</sup>

This consistent prayer has yielded amazing results!

The growth of the church in Indonesia has followed the intensity of the prayers of God's people and has greatly influenced the increase of Christians from Muslim backgrounds on a global scale.

**IF YOU ARE A  
DISCIPLE OF JESUS,  
PRAYER IS ONE OF  
THE MOST STRATEGIC  
THINGS YOU CAN  
POSSIBLY DO.**

## Your Prayer Matters!

### **Host-Directed Prayer**

Visit [www.momentumyes.com/people-groups](http://www.momentumyes.com/people-groups) to see a list of unreached people groups. Read about one of these groups.

Learning about them and praying for God to open doors will make a difference so that Jesus can be known in that part of the world.

Take a few minutes with your group to pray.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What was it like to learn about and pray for an unreached people group?
2. What are some practical ways you can begin to make prayer for the nations a reality in your life?
3. How can you encourage others to do the same?

## SESSION 2 — FOOTNOTES

1. Dan Scribner (director of Joshua Project), email message with author, February 14, 2018.
2. Jason Mandryk, *Operation World: The Definitive Prayer Guide to Every Nation*, 7th ed (Illinois: InterVarsity Press, 2011), 686.
3. Joshua Project, “Let the Nations Be Glad,” 29, accessed February 11, 2018, <https://legacy.joshuaproject.net/great-commission-powerpoints.php>.
4. Center for the Study of Global Christianity, “Christianity in Its Global Context, 1970-2020: Society, Religion, and Mission,” Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary (June 2013): 83.
5. Joshua Project, “Global Mission Trends,” 13, accessed February 4, 2018, <https://joshuaproject.net/assets/js/ppt/GlobalMissionTrends/index.html>.
6. David Garrison, “Looking Back,” in *Wind in the House of Islam: How God Is Drawing Muslims around the World to Faith in Jesus* (Monument, CO: WIGTake Resources, 2014), 138. Since Garrison published his book, the church in Iran continues to grow. In 2023, the church in Iran is estimated to be between 300,000 to 1 million believers. See <https://heart4iran.com/news/the-underground-church-of-iran-2023-update>
7. Patrick Johnstone, *The Future of the Global Church: History, Trends, and Possibilities* (Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2011), 139.
8. Joshua Project, “Let the Nations Be Glad,” 12, accessed February 5, 2018, <https://joshuaproject.net/assets/js/ppt/LetTheNationsBeGlad-a/index.html>.
9. Curtis Sergeant, “13 Pace,” (Metacamp, November 23, 2015) accessed February 4, 2017, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s-fnlmBNckU>.
10. Joshua Project, “Let the Nations Be Glad,” 32-33.
11. Joshua Project, “Let the Nations Be Glad,” 34-35.
12. Todd M. Johnson and Gina A. Zurlo, eds. “Status of Global Christianity, 2018, in the Context of 1900-2050” (The Center for the Study of Global Christianity, 2018).
13. In 2024, the capital of Indonesia moves to Nusantara.
14. Charles Jonan, email message with author, May 16, 2018.



In our last session, we discovered that perspective is powerful and our vantage point changes how we see God and missions. We will look next at our stories and how we fit into God's story!



# RETHINK IDENTITY

## The Beginning of Our Story

*Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”*

*So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.*

*God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.*

**Genesis 1:26-27, 31**

In the creation story, everything created by God is “good” until he creates humanity. After he created us, he didn’t just declare us “good”; he declared us “very good.”

God created us in his image.

Your story — the gospel story, or the good news of Jesus — does not begin with sin in Genesis 3. It begins

with goodness in Genesis 1 and 2! See [Genesis 1–3](#).

God intentionally created men and women in his likeness to reflect his character and dwell with him. God’s own identity has been built into us.

Every man and woman on earth, whether Christian or not, was created to reflect the glory of God. We are image bearers. And, with Jesus, we have all the potential necessary to bring restoration to this world!

God gives humanity a mission from the very beginning. He tells us to be fruitful and multiply in [Genesis 1:28](#) and “to govern and look after God’s creation.” <sup>1</sup> We are called to increase and grow the image of God in this world and in the people who live in it.

We have been created and given the ability to obey God just like Adam and Eve did when they walked in complete, perfect obedience to God with no shame, fear, guilt, or death.

God reveals the greatness of his heart for us, and delivers life-transforming news about who we are and our mission in this world. We miss the point if we do not consider the first and second chapters of Genesis. <sup>2</sup>



## THE ULTIMATE SOURCE OF YOUR IDENTITY, WHAT QUALIFIES YOU TO DO THE GOOD THINGS OF GOD, DOES NOT COME FROM WHAT YOU HAVE DONE, BUT FROM WHO GOD SAYS YOU ARE.

**You, as an everyday person, are qualified to change everything in this world because of your identity as an image bearer of the one true God.**

You were created to act and speak on his behalf. This is the highest calling we could possibly have — to live, speak, and reflect the glory of God. <sup>3</sup>

There was a time when Adam and Eve lived in perfection without shame, fear, and guilt. All of that changed once they ate the forbidden fruit. See [Genesis 3:1-14](#).

- They covered themselves with fig leaves because they were ashamed.
- They hid from God because they were afraid.
- They felt guilty because they knew they had done something wrong.

Because of Genesis 3, we might believe the lie that we are not loved by God or equipped to help build his kingdom, but God does not let the lie continue!

**Genesis 3 also tells the story of God promising to send a hero to provide the way for all peoples to be restored with him.**

In [Genesis 3:15](#), God spoke to the serpent, saying that while he would bruise the heel of an offspring of Eve, that offspring would “crush [his] head.”

It points ahead to the work that Jesus would do in ultimately defeating the serpent once and for all.

God sacrifices an animal to make coverings for Adam and Eve even though they had already made coverings for themselves. This points us to what Jesus would do through his death and resurrection.

**Jesus is the ultimate image bearer. Because of Jesus, we can be restored to our original mission and triumph over shame, fear, and guilt.**

In the first three chapters of the Bible, we read the good news that only God can bring — the good news that God will not allow Satan to win! **God enacted an extraordinary plan to restore all of humankind back to himself, and YOU and I get to be a part of it!**

## Blessed to Be a Blessing

It's easy to think about “blessings” as good things God does or allows to happen for our enjoyment or benefit. But what if that was not the whole story?

## WE ARE BLESSED BY GOD, SO THAT WE CAN BE A BLESSING TO OTHERS.

*“Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you. I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you;*

*I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."*

**Genesis 12:1-3**

God launches his mission to redeem and restore all people through Abraham, and it will change the course of human history.

Being used by God to bless others is the greatest gift we can receive. The Bible is full of passages that reinforce this truth:

- **[Psalm 67:1-2](#)** - The blessing that is being spoken comes with a blessing that is then given to others.
- **[Psalm 46:10](#)** - "Know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations."
- **[2 Corinthians 1:3-4](#)** – We are blessed as God comforts us in all our troubles to be a blessing as we can comfort those in any trouble.
- **[Ephesians 2:8-10](#)** – We are blessed by being saved by grace through faith to be a blessing, doing good works as God's workmanship.
- **[Matthew 10:8](#)** – We've been blessed by freely receiving that we might be a blessing and freely give to others.

**Throughout all of God's Word, it's clear that blessings from God carry a responsibility for others! <sup>4</sup>**

**Are You a Container or Pipeline?**

- **Container** – If water goes into a container, it stays and remains there, limited in what it can do until ultimately becoming stagnant.
- **Pipeline** – Water can flow easily through a pipeline. The amount of things that can be affected by living, flowing water is infinite.

God created us to be pipelines of living water, moving with a purpose.

## **BEING OBEDIENT TO BEING A BLESSING MAKES ANY PERSON CAPABLE OF TRANSFORMING THE WORLD.**

**What if every single believer lived with this kind of mind-set? How different would our world look?**

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. What are the implications that our story starts with being "very good", not with sin?
2. What else struck you about our identity and purpose, and why does it matter?
3. What are some of the ways we have been blessed, so that we may be a blessing to others? How can we be a 'pipeline' to be a blessing to those around us right now?

# RETHINK IDENTITY

## Everyday People Changing Culture

Everyday people, when they submit every part of their lives to God, can change everything in our world if we see ourselves as those who have been blessed, so we can bless the world.

**EVERYDAY PEOPLE WHO  
HAVE BEEN BLESSED  
CAN BLESS THE WORLD.**

There's a moment in Acts when the disciples asked Jesus when he was going to overthrow the Romans and return the land that was taken from them hundreds of years previously. Jesus' response shows clearly that the disciples hadn't yet understood the kingdom of God and the role they would play in it:

*"It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."*

**Acts 1:7-8**

**Jesus was saying that his disciples were going to start a movement that would transform entire cultures and nations! Not by military power, but by the power of the gospel!**

The disciples obeyed even when they didn't understand. They trusted the power of God.

The movement of the gospel was transforming so many lives that Roman culture was being changed. God used normal, everyday people to transform

- Individuals
- Families
- Cultures

Roman society was filled with prejudices regarding ethnicities, genders, and social positions.

**HISTORICALLY, THE  
CHURCH IS ONE OF  
THE FIRST PLACES YOU  
SEE VARIOUS CLASSES  
AND RACES WORKING  
TOGETHER FOR A  
COMMON PURPOSE.**

- **Slaves, masters, peasants, and the wealthy intermingled** in the church.
- **Women became more greatly valued because of the church.** Men and women began interacting as equals and serving together. Paul commends women who were powerfully moving the gospel forward in [Romans 16](#).
- **Marriages and families became stronger.** As men who lived immoral lives became Christians, they began valuing their wives as Jesus had valued women.
- **The church cared for those in need.** Prior to Christianity, if a person contracted the plague, family and friends would abandon him or her to die. As believers came to value one another, they stayed with the sick and cared for them, even at the risk of their own lives.

This movement of everyday people was turning the Roman Empire upside down. Roman government leaders, who were not Christians, noticed the significant transformation of normal men and women, and they did not know how to handle them.

## Pliny's Letter to Emperor Trajan

Just seventy years after Jesus rose from the dead, a non-Christian Roman governor wrote to the Roman Emperor Trajan to ensure he was following protocol when he executed Christians who refused to deny Jesus.

In his letter, he described to Trajan the growing movement of the gospel even in the midst of persecution.

*"This (gospel) movement involves such large numbers of endangered people (Christians) from all ranks, ages and both sexes. This contagious superstition (Christianity) is not confined to the cities, but has spread to villages and rural districts. The pagan temples have been almost deserted, and demand for sacrificial animals is significantly down."*

— See Appendix for "Letter from Pliny and Response from Emperor Trajan"

**WHEN EVERYDAY PEOPLE  
ARE TRANSFORMED  
BY THE POWER OF THE  
GOSPEL, EVERYTHING  
IN SOCIETY CAN BE  
TRANSFORMED BACK TO  
THE WAY GOD INTENDED  
THINGS TO BE!**

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How does what Jesus said in Acts 1:7-8 apply to you and your church? What more could we do to make sure we're tackling the full challenge Jesus gave us, and not just parts of it?
2. Everyday people changed the culture significantly in the first few centuries. What were the key ingredients for this culture change to happen?
3. What are some of the ways we can be witnesses to the 'ends of the earth'?

# RETHINK IDENTITY

## Everyday People Working as a Team

Most of us are ready and willing to be used by God, but don't know how to do it on our own.

**WE ARE NOT ON  
OUR OWN; WE ARE  
PART OF A TEAM.**

The Roman Empire wasn't transformed because of a few individuals. It was transformed because of the hundreds and thousands of everyday people who aligned every part of their lives with Jesus and his mission for the world!

## Host-Directed Prayer for the Unreached

Prayer is our most powerful tool for reaching the nations.

Try using the wonderful [Prayercast](#) resource to pray for one or two nations of your choosing, perhaps one from the 10/40 window we learned about in Session 2, or somewhere overseas you or someone in the group has a heart for.

These videos are created by local intercessors and journalists so you can make informed prayers into each country's greatest areas of need, while being inspired by beautiful imagery from that country.

You can find a list of all the nations here: [prayercast.com](http://prayercast.com)

If you'd like more prayer resources to use now or in the future, try downloading the [Unreached of the Day app](#) from the Joshua Project to your phone, and pray for the people group of the day. This app also provides an ongoing, easy way to pray for the unreached.

Take a few minutes with your group, and ask God to be at work in significant ways, so that you might see a piece of our world look more like heaven.

## DISCUSSION QUESTION

1. How did you find praying along with someone from another nation and seeing their country?
2. What might you do to make prayer for the unreached a regular habit?
3. Andrew Murray, the great missionary, said, “The one who mobilizes the Christian church to pray will make the greatest contribution to world evangelization in history.” What could you do to mobilize others to pray for the nations?

## SESSION 3 — FOOTNOTES

1. Carolyn Custis James, *Half the Church* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2011), 71.
2. James, *Half the Church*, 52.
3. James, *Half the Church*, 53.
4. James, *Half the Church*, 42.

## SESSION 3 — APPENDIX

### Letter from Pliny, Governor of Bithynia, to Emperor Trajan, AD 111

It is my practice, my lord, to refer to you all matters concerning which I am in doubt. For who can better give guidance to my hesitation or inform my ignorance? I have never before participated in trials of Christians, so I do not know what offenses are to be punished or investigated, or to what extent. And I have been not a little hesitant as to whether there should be any distinction on account of age, or no difference recognized between the very young and the more mature. Is pardon to be granted for repentance, or if a man has once been a Christian is it irrelevant whether he has ceased to be one? Is the name itself to be punished, even without offenses, or only the offenses perpetrated in connection with the name?

Meanwhile, in the case of those who were denounced to me as Christians, I have followed the following procedure: I interrogated them as to whether they were Christians; those who confessed I interrogated a second and a third time, threatening them with punishment; those who persisted I ordered executed. For I had no doubt that, whatever the nature of their creed, stubbornness and inflexible obstinacy surely deserve to be punished. There were others possessed of the same folly; but because they were Roman citizens, I signed an order for them to be transferred to Rome.

Soon accusations spread because of these proceedings, as usually happens,

and several incidents occurred. An anonymous document was published containing the names of many persons. Those who denied that they were or had been Christians, when they invoked the gods in words dictated by me, offered prayer with incense and wine to your image, which I had ordered to be brought for this purpose together with statues of the gods, and also cursed Christ — none of which those who are really Christians can, it is said, be forced to do — these I thought should be discharged. Others named by the informer declared that they were Christians, but then denied it, asserting that they had been but had ceased to be, some three years before, others many years, some as much as twenty-five years. They all worshipped your image and the statues of the gods, and cursed Christ. They asserted, however, that the sum and substance of their fault or error had been that they were accustomed to meet on a fixed day before dawn and sing responsively a hymn to Christ as to a god, and to bind themselves by oath, not to do some crime, but not to commit fraud, theft, or adultery, not falsify their trust, nor to refuse to return a trust when called upon to do so. When this was over, it was their custom to depart and to assemble again to partake of food — but ordinary and innocent food.

Even this, they affirmed, they had ceased to do after my edict by which,



in accordance with your instructions, I had forbidden political associations. Accordingly, I judged it all the more necessary to find out what the truth was by torturing two female slaves who were called deaconesses. But I discovered nothing else but depraved, excessive superstition. I therefore postponed the investigation and hastened to consult you. For the matter seemed to me to warrant consulting you, especially because of the number involved. For many persons of every age, every rank, and also of both sexes are and will be endangered. For the contagion of this superstition has spread not only to the

cities but also to the villages and farms. But it seems possible to check and cure it.

It is certainly quite clear that the temples, which had been almost deserted, have begun to be frequented, that the established religious rites, long neglected, are being resumed, and that from everywhere sacrificial animals are coming, for which until now very few purchasers could be found. Hence it is easy to imagine what a multitude of people can be reformed if an opportunity for repentance is afforded.

## Response from Emperor Trajan to Pliny, Governor of Bithynia

You observed proper procedure, my dear Pliny, in sifting the cases of those who had been denounced to you as Christians. For it is not possible to lay down any general rule to serve as a kind of fixed standard. They are not to be sought out; if they are denounced and proved guilty, they are to be punished, with this reservation, that whoever denies

that he is a Christian and really proves it — that is, by worshiping our gods — even though he was under suspicion in the past, shall obtain pardon through repentance. But anonymously posted accusations ought to have no place in any prosecution. For this is both a dangerous kind of precedent and out of keeping with the spirit of our age.

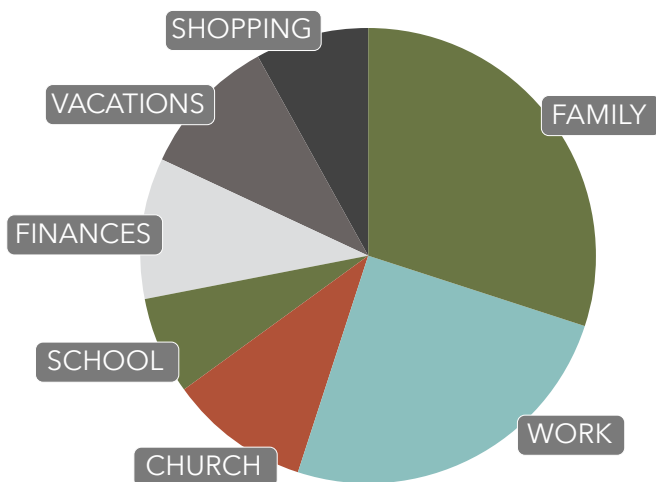


We've done some rethinking in these first few sessions about God, his mission in this world, and our identity: learning that because we are image bearers, we are part of a team changing our culture and living out God's mission in our daily lives. Because we are blessed to be a blessing, let's rethink our involvement and what our role on the team might be.

# RETHINK INVOLVEMENT

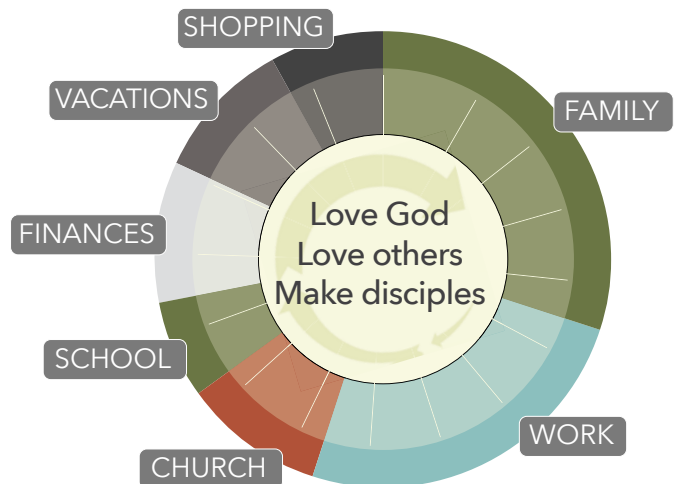
## Call to All: Going

We often compartmentalize our lives into different sections. These compartments look like pie pieces.



Instead of everything being compartmentalized and fighting for our energy, resources, and time, what if our decisions were shaped by the mission of God at the center of our lives?

What if our lives looked less like a pie and more like a wheel?



- **Finances** – supporting missionaries in unreached areas
- **Shopping** – buying or advocating for fair trade merchandise from unreached areas
- **Holidays** – considering family mission trips
- **School** – getting to know our children's friends and their parents and building relationships that could give us the opportunity to share Jesus
- **Work** – reflecting God's glory by the excellence with which we do our craft

*"It's not the church that has a mission, but it's the mission that has a church."*<sup>1</sup>

## THE MISSION OF DISCIPLES BEING MADE IN EVERY NATION ON EARTH IS THE MISSION FOR ALL OF US, REGARDLESS OF WHERE WE LIVE.

### It Starts with a Yes!

Do something! Discover your active role in making disciples of all the nations.

**Every one of us**, as a follower of Christ, is either **going** or **sending** others to reach the ends of the earth.

### A Sample of Story Highlights

#### Benson

When I attended a camp I heard the following: "Devote your best youth to God." That was a shocking statement to me. I went home and thought about it carefully. If God truly is of the utmost importance to me, then what good do I have that I cannot give to Him? So I decided to dedicate my best years of youth to God.

#### Carrie

We lived in North Africa leading a team of church planters. We spent a total of ten years in that country, really getting to know the people and working in church planting. And we really

felt God telling us it was time to move on. And that came as a bit of a shock actually, because there was a lot happening. But God has his wisdom in things. And I think one of the things was transitioning the country into more Arab leadership.

#### Seyi

The other day I was with my colleagues. One of them was Hindu, [and she] started a conversation. I seized the opportunity because she opened up the conversation about struggles that she faced, and I shared my story basically about my life. I've been in this kind of struggle before, but knowing Jesus, I'm not talking about someone that is, you know, superficial. I'm talking about my experience with Jesus Christ. So this happens to me and it can also happen to you.

#### Carrie

Some people worry that mission is maybe colonialist or paternalistic. But if you think about it, the Bible is not a Western book. It's from the Middle East. And also the message that God gives to all people is absolutely addressing the two main problems that people have. And those are the problems of sin - like people being horrible to each other, and the problem of death. And Jesus provides a solution to both of those things, giving us freedom and forgiveness and hope for the future.

**GOING** can be viewed in various ways. Maybe God wants you to take a trip or to relocate, but maybe he wants you to go to the nations right where you are.

We live in a global world and going to the nations can be as simple as connecting with the nations that have already come to you by viewing your

neighbors who come from different backgrounds from a global Christian perspective.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1.** Do you compartmentalize your life? What difference would it make if you saw it more as a wheel and not a pie, with God's mission integrated across all elements of it?
- 2.** "It's not the church that has a mission, but it's the mission that has a church." What implications does this have for our personal and church life?
- 3.** There are many ways to follow God's Great Commission, including going to another country for a long or short time, or reaching the nations who have come to our neighborhoods. What first thoughts do you have about how you might get more involved?

# RETHINK INVOLVEMENT

## Call to All: Sending

**SENDING** can mean playing a vital part of the sending team for those who have been called to go. In addition, it could mean seriously praying for the workers of his harvest: those who are serving already and those who haven't yet heard the call.

## A Sample of Story Highlights

### Jody

One of the couples from our small group decided to go onto the mission field. And I knew when God called them that he was calling me to support them and to help them get there. Their mission became our mission!

I always try to remind them they're not alone; we're all in this together.

### Ohsung and Jessica

We pray for and support the work going on in the Amazon, where there are some churches [and] our friends. We are financially supporting several Brazilian and Peruvian missionaries and their families.

We're also reading through a family guide, praying for the world. So each

day as a family, we look at these issues or the country, and we pray for them together as a family.

### Felipe

How can you support people like me that want to share something of Jesus? You don't need a psychology degree or anything, you just need to love them. You just need to ask them — how are you? What do you need? How can I pray for you?

**Martin and Elizabeth** — Prayer is so important. How do you do your missionary prayer?

I find that unless I'm structured, I just forget all about it. So I have time every morning for reading the Bible and prayer. And the best thing for me is to make lists. When I hear about needs, and I put them down, and sometimes I divide it over the week and put particular needs in particular days of the week.

You and I are a little bit different. I don't work on lists at all. I have just a small number of people, and a small number of situations, that I pray for every morning, and I've been praying for them for many years, and I see God working through them.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1.** Have you engaged with those from your church who are working cross-culturally, either locally or overseas? How could you get involved with them and their work?
- 2.** What habits could you build into your personal prayer life to specifically pray for the unreached?
- 3.** How could you invite others to regularly join you in these prayers for the nations? What would be the benefits of doing this with others?



# RETHINK INVOLVEMENT

## Call to All: Mobilizing

**MOBILIZING** involves us inviting and training others in the body of Christ to the same work—whether going or sending.

### A Sample of Story Highlights

#### Adam

I personally love to teach of God's heart for mission and for the nations. We used to have one Sunday in the year, which was our missions focus Sunday. And that was great. But then we felt, we want this to be our core business. So we've now taken responsibility to, whenever we have our monthly prayer gathering, to always be praying for some aspect of overseas work. And we'll be trying to include illustrations in our preaching.

#### Andrea

My husband, my two sons and I, have now been on mission trips three years in a row, and we also lead a support team for our partner in Africa through prayer and strategic planning. We've had the chance through the years to sit down with a lot of our friends and share our family's story.

And one of the things that we always

try to impart is the importance that their prayer has on this work. So, even if they can't go on a mission trip themselves, they can still take an active part through prayer and through giving.

By inviting our kids to go along, we've really been blessed by watching their perspectives change by being in a different culture. And so, when we're inviting others to come with us, we are always cognizant of inviting families with older children, so that they can have that experience, as well.

#### Aklas

Oftentimes when you do a course like this, you don't know what the next first step is. And then leading a group could help you see it from a different perspective, and oftentimes lead you to what it is that God's calling you to do specifically.

**It's not by being passive, and it's not because it's an obligation. We do this by taking an active step so that we can experience the fullness of life with Jesus.**

**IF YOU WANT ALL  
THAT THE LORD HAS  
TO OFFER YOU IN  
THIS LIFE, THEN THE  
TIME HAS COME FOR  
YOU TO TAKE A STEP  
TOWARD SAYING YES  
TO THE MOMENTUM  
THAT IS AT WORK  
IN THIS WORLD.**

Everyone's step starts with a yes. We want to give you a chance to see some of the ways God has used people just like you, to play a role in establishing his kingdom among every nation, when they said yes.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Are you prepared to be an answer to your own prayers for the nations, as Nehemiah was asked to be?
2. Could you start your own **MomentumYes** group and help mobilize others to grasp God's vision for the nations?
3. Look at the [Engage](#) section of the [MomentumYes](#) website. It's full of practical ways you can get involved in sending, going and mobilizing. Are there one or two ideas that stand out to you? We'll come back to them in the final session to give you a chance to talk through them and decide what your next steps might be.

# What Are Your Next Steps?

## GO

### Travel

- Take part in one of your church's mission trips. If your church does not offer any, find a church in your community that does and ask to join them. Serve for a specific project: build a well, organize a VBS, take a prayer journey, etc.
- After talking with your church missions leadership, contact an agency to learn more about the process of becoming a full-time missionary.
- Discover options of great mission agencies for you by completing this [survey](#) with our partner, The Traveling Team, and a coach will contact you.
- Consider moving to and working in countries where access is difficult by using your vocation, such as business, teaching, tourism, medical professions, etc. Visit [www.scatterglobal.com](http://www.scatterglobal.com).

### Connect

- Implement the ideas in [the RISE Project](#) video series.
- Talk to people from other backgrounds whom you see in stores, restaurants, or your church. Begin to build relationships with them.
- Adopt an international student. Invite him or her to have coffee, see a movie, or attend an athletic event. Invite the student to your home for dinner.
- Be more mindful of individuals from other backgrounds in your neighborhood, school, or workplace. Be intentional, connecting with them, rather than feeling awkward or uncomfortable.
- Assist refugees or recent immigrants in your city with simple things, like transportation or locating the post office. Ask how you can help them navigate new surroundings.

- Use [find.bible](#) or the Jesus Film Project app to easily share Scripture with your friends in their own languages.
- Consider volunteering to teach your language to others who don't know it.
- Read *Across the Street and Around the World* by Jeannie Marie.

## SEND

### Discover

- Start to think globally. Purchase a world map, hang it up, or save it on your computer. When you hear about a country, find it on the map.
- Read [Operation World](#), [Open Doors](#), and/or [Joshua Project](#) online.
- Read or watch BBC, world news. Watch movies/read books that are cross-cultural, i.e., *Blood Diamond*, *The Kite Runner*, *In America*, *The Visitor*, *Gran Torino*, *Hotel Rwanda*.
- Read biographies of missionaries, testimonies of people in other cultures coming to Christ, books about cross-cultural ministry, etc.
- Attend a Bridges class to help pave the way for building relationships with Muslims in your community. Visit [crescentproject.org](http://crescentproject.org).
- Take [Perspectives](#) or [Pathways](#) or [Kairos](#) to grow your worldview and dig deeper into God's mission.

### Invest

- Give extravagantly when a friend is going on a mission trip.
- Offer to host dinners/fund-raisers for mission trips or for friends who go as missionaries.
- Personally support missionaries.
- Fund a missionary to attend a debriefing program at [MTI](#) or [TRAIN International](#).
- Give toward a specific mission project.

- Focus on giving your money to un-reached-people-group missions.
- Read *Serving as Senders Today*, by Neal Pirolo.
- Spend time reading articles found at [missionarycare.com](http://missionarycare.com).
- Serve on a Support Team for a missionary.
- Send cards of encouragement to missionaries.
- Use your skills to serve a missionary or mission agency, i.e., offer advice about business matters; aid leadership teams with planning, logistics, and maintaining grounds and facilities projects; help develop content for blogs and/or websites.

## Pray

- Pray when you hear about world events on the news!
- Use [Prayercast](#) videos during your prayer time.
- Pray for Muslims during Ramadan. See [Pray30Days.org](#).
- Pray for Hindus during the Hindu Festival of Light. See [15 Days of Prayer for the Hindu World](#).
- Join or start a group that emphasizes praying for the world, a specific mission, or missionaries from your church.
- Use world-prayer apps such as Unreached of the Day, Operation World, etc.
- Sign up for prayer reminders with [Pray for Tunisia](#), [Global Christian Relief](#), etc.
- Sign up to be part of a prayer team for friends/family who are on short- or long-term mission trips.
- Pray when you drive past the local mosque, and Hindu or Buddhist temples.

- Pray intentionally when you encounter people from different backgrounds at a store, work, an athletic event, a traffic light, etc.
- Don't underestimate the power of prayer: "The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective" (James 5:16).
- Read about [the Moravians who prayed 24/7 for a hundred years!](#)
- Read *Extreme Prayer*, by Greg Pruett.

# MOBILIZE

## Invite

- Teach others to do what you are doing.
- Serve on a committee or a team that advocates/prays/strategizes for an unreached people area.
- Organize a globally focused prayer group.
- Share [JoshuaProject.net](#) with a friend or family member.
- Invite a missions person to share with your small group.

## Train

- Discuss what you are learning about the world with your friends/family.
- Facilitate a Bridges class, and assist others in building relationships with Muslims in your community.
- Integrate elements from Momentum Yes into your small group or Bible study.
- Facilitate a six-week MomentumYes group with your friends.
- Start a [ZÚME](#) group and learn together how to obey the Great Commission and make disciples who multiply.
- Go through [40 Days 40 Bites](#) with kids that you disciple. This is the book that Jessica & Ohsung use with their children.

## SESSION 4 — FOOTNOTE

1. Alan Hirsch, *Right Here, Right Now* (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 2011), 36.



We've been challenged to go, send, and mobilize as our perspective changes. Now we will discuss some intentional ways we can advance God's kingdom in our own communities.

# RETHINK OPPORTUNITY

## On Your Doorstep

**YOU ARE ABLE TO  
GO TO THE NATIONS  
WITHOUT EVER  
BOARDING A PLANE.**

By rethinking your opportunity to connect cross-culturally, right here where you live, you have the power to advance God's kingdom on a global scale.

So who are you connecting with?

- neighbors
- co-workers and classmates
- shop and restaurant owners
- students
- healthcare staff and other patients
- refugees, asylum seekers and immigrant families

**You have the chance to connect with people from unreached areas who have never met an authentic Christian, and may have never heard the gospel. We have the incredible opportunity of loving them and sharing Jesus with them.**

## A Sample of Story Highlights

### Martin

*With radiotherapy, you have to go regularly to the hospital, and you meet the same people every day. And I found I got to know the other people quite well. And after a while, I was able to share my Christian faith with them. And we discussed it a lot together, day by day. I remember there was a Bangladeshi lady there, and she discovered about Christian books from me and asked me to bring books to the hospital surgery clinic. And she bought three Christian books from me in the surgery there.*

### Tessie

*Here in this town, there's so many people that don't know God. We're so privileged to have young people come over to our house every week, to pray together, to speak about God, to hear more about God. In that group, a lot of them are students. It's so simple, just to come away from student accommodation to a home actually goes a long way for these students, even before we start talking about God. Just the fact there is a place that they can come and relax, and talk and then to be able to tell them about Jesus.*

The Lord's plan for reaching every nation is based on his people being engaged

in cross-cultural relationships. From the beginning of the church, Christ has been helping his people connect with those who are not like them.

### **Example: Peter**

- One of Christ's disciples and close friends.
- Heard Jesus talk for years about the good news being for all nations and even preached at Pentecost, when three thousand people of different languages were baptized.
- Had to be addressed in a vision, and Paul called him out for acting differently among Jews and Gentiles.
- Witnessed non-Jewish people receiving the Holy Spirit in Acts 10. Listen to what he says:

*"I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right."*

**Acts 10:34-35**

Neighbors from different backgrounds, who live in our communities, are not just people to be acknowledged. They are the nations the Lord brought here, waiting for someone to reach out and befriend them.

### **A Sample of Story Highlights**

#### **Karina**

*It was about 20 years ago, we were praying about which nation to go to and how to reach unreached peoples. When we realized actually there were unreached people in our city, in the Midlands, that we could reach. So we made the long journey of moving three*

*miles down the road into our city center where there were people around us from nations like Somalia, established communities from India, and Pakistan, and then also some new nations that God was bringing to our doorstep from places like Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan.*

#### **Abigael**

*For our church, one of the big things on our hearts is diversity. So we're praying for those that are coming to the country, for God to help them to settle. We hear stories from people that are not Christian; you know, Jesus visiting them in their dreams and becoming Christians. It's amazing that God is working that way. We'll continue to pray that God will continue to work through either somebody's preaching or God visiting them somehow. And from one person, the family obviously will be aware of the kind of God they serve, and that affects the community and the nation around them.*

**A good place to start building relationships with these neighbors is: ask questions, learn a little and use it a lot, get to know people, and tear down walls.**

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- 1.** Have you thought about the opportunity to reach the nations 'on your doorstep?' How do you feel about this?
- 2.** What nations are represented in your community?
- 3.** What kind of interactions have you experienced with neighbors from various backgrounds where you live?



# RETHINK OPPORTUNITY

## Ask Questions

### Build Bridges

- Study their culture and world.
- Dive deeper into who they are.
- Be prepared to laugh and make mistakes.
- Show you value them and wish to understand them more.

## A Sample of Story Highlights

### David

*No matter what you ask, you will probably say something where you stick your foot in your mouth. And it's okay, if you're doing it in a way that cares about a person. I like to eat. I start talking about food. Food goes into family and talking about them. "Tell me about your family." Open-ended. And that goes into family gatherings. Talk about holidays. "Do you celebrate Christmas where you live? What does that look like? What other holidays do you have that you celebrate?" And to me, those are really easy things.*

### Sarah

*I got talking to a Chinese guy and asked him what he was planning to do over the holidays. He wanted to work, he wanted to get all of his studies done, but the one thing he wanted to do was to go visit a local church. I asked him if he knew anything about Jesus to do with Christmas. And he genuinely never had. And so I then spent the next few minutes explaining the basics of the Gospel to him, explaining how Christmas was all about Jesus.*

### Filipe

*I met a barber. He was very kind and easygoing, and we started to form this bond. I started to pray for him. So on my way to the barber shop, I started to pray and I said, "Lord, may you connect our conversation in a way that is not forced."*

*So one day, after we talked, he asked if I could come with him to the back of the shop. This had never happened before, so I went with him. He said to me — his eyes were filled with tears - he said to me, "Filipe, I don't know what's going on, but I'm very interested in God."*

### Learn a Little, and Use It a Lot

- Learn a few words in their language.
- Eat what they eat.
- Be attentive to what they do. Dress conservatively if they do so. Take off your shoes if that's what they do.
- Be cautious about gender interactions.

### Get to Know People

- Be a good listener.
- Share your life with them.
- Pray with and for them.
- Accompany them to appointments and activities.

## ALLOW THEM TO SEE HOW THE GOSPEL HAS TRANSFORMED YOUR EVERYDAY LIFE.

*"One thing I think Western culture really values is individuality and quickness, and yet so many cultures around the world don't do that at all. Investing time in people is incredibly key."*

**Sarah**

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What experiences have you had asking questions about someone's culture? Were there any surprises? What was easy, what was difficult?
2. What were some of the ideas or tips that stood out to you from the video?
3. What are some of your cultural values that help you connect with people? Are there any cultural values that make it challenging for you to connect with others from different backgrounds?

# RETHINK OPPORTUNITY

## Tear Down Walls

Building relationships with neighbors from different backgrounds, we often encounter barriers. We spend our lives building walls that, if we want to connect with people who are different from us, will have to be torn down.

### A Sample of Story Highlights

#### Filipe

*Since I'm Brazilian and we love football, I have this opportunity to play with non-Christian friends from around the neighborhood. Even through football, the doors can be opened so that Jesus may work in our lives and in the lives of our neighbors. I've spent some time with this guy from Syria. And we've had many conversations about faith, but it still hasn't come to anything. The Word of God says that the one who convicts of all sin is God's Holy Spirit. All we really have to do is make ourselves available, and the breakthrough comes from God.*

#### Abigael

*Christianity in the UK isn't the same as it is in Nigeria. In Nigeria, you just preach, whether you know the person or*

*not. So I had to understand how to communicate and actually share the love of Christ with them first, and build a friendship relationship, and then being able to then easily just share God's love, and share the gospel that way. Definitely, the key thing for me was to understand the environment.*

#### Tear Down Walls

- Correct misconceptions about Christianity.
- Without dwelling on the bad, speak openly of what's good and bad in your culture. Rethink opportunities to undo some damage.
- Being sensitive to others' culture can be effective in breaking down walls, but make sure you don't do anything that conflicts with God's Word.
- Be careful not to become too enmeshed in a culture, or you can begin to resemble someone other than a follower of Jesus. One example is that religious symbols are used in jewelry and accessories.

# Responses to Culture

## Three Negative Reactions to Culture

As observed by André Houssney, the three most common responses we can have to experiencing a different culture are fear, fury and fascination. <sup>1</sup>

- **Fear** - When we encounter something that's new or unfamiliar in a different culture. In fear we often become silent, instead of attempting to understand more, or withdraw altogether in order to avoid awkward situations.
- **Fury** – When we recognize something in a culture that doesn't sit well with us. It can frequently lead to conflict and resentment. We apply anger and hostility, rather than trying to comprehend what makes a culture value what it does.
- **Fascination** – It's great to realize the good in another culture. We must be careful, however, that fascination doesn't become syncretism, which is perceiving all things in a culture as good and true and losing the truth of the gospel.

## Gospel-Oriented Responses to Culture <sup>2</sup>

- **Love** – God's Word is clear that love should be at the center of our hearts, no matter the circumstance. Love, boldness, gentleness, and truth are the best ways to represent the gospel to neighbors from different backgrounds.

## IF YOU CAN EXPRESS LOVE, GOD CAN USE YOU IN AMAZING WAYS!

Our neighbors are too important to ignore, especially when they hail from parts of the world that have little access to Jesus.

There is no Plan B! God has made it clear that we, his church, are the plan to see that every nation on earth will know that Christ is the best news in the universe.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What 'walls' need tearing down in your life and our general culture so we can be more welcoming to those from other backgrounds?
2. What are some of the ways you can respond with love to counter the common reactions of fear, fury or fascination?
3. What person or family could you intentionally connect with using the tips from these videos? What might be your next steps?

## SESSION 5 — PRAYER

# RETHINK OPPORTUNITY

### Host-Directed Prayer

Prayer is our most powerful tool for opening doors for the gospel in our communities.

If you are studying in a group, your leader has information about some of your neighbors from different backgrounds. Or take a look at

this [sample](#) to help you consider your own community. Take a few minutes with your group, asking God to move in significant ways so that neighbors in your community will hear the good news about Jesus.

Bravely pray that you will be the answers to your prayers.

## SESSION 5 — FOOTNOTES

1. Georges Houssney, *Engaging Islam* (Boulder, CO: Treeline Publishing, 2010), 35-49.
2. Houssney, *Engaging Islam*.



We are all part of a timeline that stretches back to Jesus's first disciples. God wants us all to tie our lives to his mission. That means that knowing must become doing at some point. The question that frequently follows learning is "Now what?"

# RETHINK OUR LIVES

What will your story be?

**Everyday people came before us.**

Christians from all over the world are standing on the shoulders of other Christians. We've all had one or two people in our lives who shared Jesus with us. And others shared Christ with them. And on and on it goes, generation after generation.

**THE CHURCH  
WOULD NEVER  
HAVE SURVIVED,  
LET ALONE THRIVED,  
WITHOUT EVERYDAY  
MEN AND WOMEN  
CARRYING ON  
GOD'S MISSION.**

It's easy to skip over the unfamiliar names as in [Romans 16](#), instead just focusing on the ones we know. All of those unfamiliar people, however, were essential to the spreading of the gospel.

At the end of his life, Paul wrote a letter to a younger friend named Timothy. He wanted him to carry on what he had been doing for the past three decades — to

step into his role as a disciple who makes disciples.

*"And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others."*

**2 Timothy 2:2**

In one sentence, Paul describes four spiritual generations: **himself**, who discipled **Timothy**, who would disciple **trustworthy people**, who would then pass the gospel on to **others**.

When you examine the entire story of Christ's church as one timeline, you may be surprised. You would find big names like Paul, Peter, Timothy, Martin Luther, and John Calvin. However you would find a shocking number of names that you wouldn't recognize.

**For instance,**

- **635 – Alopen** arrives in China from the Nestorian church in the Persian Empire. He is the first-known missionary to China.
- **1379 – Stefan Permsky** returns to the place he grew up with his mother's people, the Komi people, in the northern part of



Russia. He invented an alphabet and translated the Bible into their language, so that they could worship in their own language.

- **1727** – A missionary movement is born when **Count Nicolaus Ludwig Zinzendorf** leads the Moravian community to begin twenty-four-hour, nonstop prayer. It lasted more than a hundred years, resulting in hundreds of missionaries being sent out from the community.
- **1823** – The American Board of Missions sends African-American **Betsy Stockton** to Hawaii. She thus becomes the first single-woman missionary in modern-missions history.

The Lord has been pursuing all peoples since day one and, if we embrace that, we really do see it's not so much that the church has a mission, as it is that the mission has a church.

**Our story as children of God is not only a story of spiritual giants. It's a story full of people just like you, who simply said yes to making Jesus famous among all of the nations.**

## WHAT WILL BE YOUR STORY ON THE TIMELINE?

**Visit:**

[momentumyes.com/timeline](http://momentumyes.com/timeline)

to investigate the growth of the Church throughout the centuries.

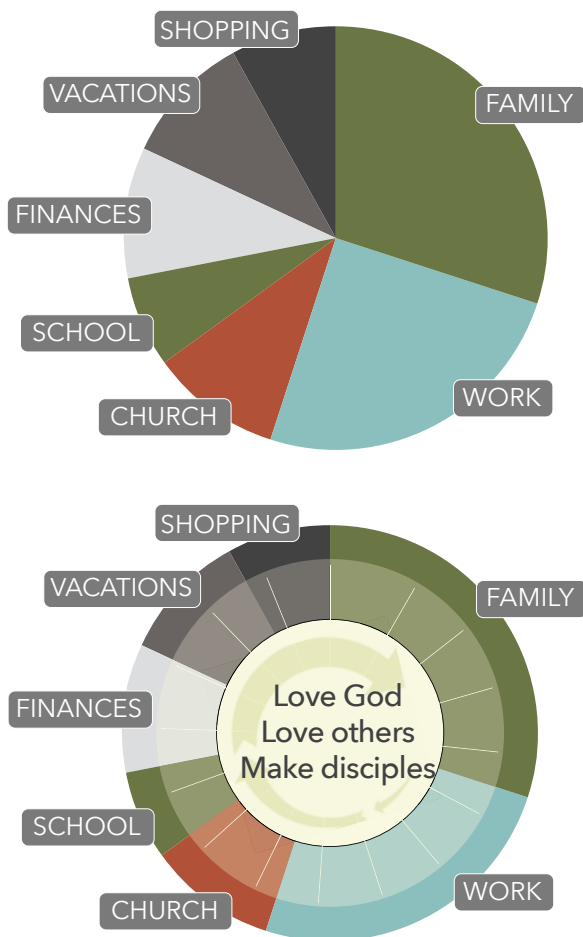
## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss the idea that there are generations of people who have said yes to Jesus stretching from you all the way to the first disciples. How does this strengthen your courage and faith?
2. Use the [timeline](#) to explore the growth of the church over the centuries. If you're in a group, you could divide it up into sections. Ask God to inspire you with the way he has built his church through the centuries.
3. Share what stood out to you as you reflected on the names and movements through the centuries. What is God showing you? What will your story be on the timeline? Respond in prayer.

# RETHINK OUR LIVES

## Now What?

The goals of MomentumYes are becoming more like God and making our hearts and vision more like his.



Place God's mission for the nations at the center of your heart and life, and allow that to change every part of your

life – family, work, neighborhood, school, and church.

The Lord didn't intend for mission to be a department or ministry in our churches. God has planned for it to be the foundation of all ministry.

The Lord wants to be in restored relationship with every nation, tribe, and tongue, having his glory reflected back to him by his creation all over the earth.

## DREAM, ASK, AND IMAGINE WHAT ROLE GOD MAY BE INVITING YOU TO PLAY IN THE GRAND MISSION.

Ephesians 3:21 tells us that we serve a Lord who longs *"to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine."*

### Too Important to Forget!

In the 10/40 window, sixty thousand people die daily, not having heard the good news of Jesus. [That's almost one person every second.](#)

Scripture promises that a day will come when every knee will bow, and every

tongue will confess that [Jesus is Lord](#).

More non-Christians are alive today than at any other point in history.

Our generation is THE generation that is responsible for taking the gospel to the end of the earth. We can be the ones to see every people group obtain gospel access.

Christ is building his church, and it cannot be stopped.

We simply have to say yes to joining the momentum.

Everyday people go, send, and mobilize.

Everyday individuals can answer affirmatively to Jesus and his mission. Saying yes requires taking a step.

## WHAT STEP OR STEPS DO YOU VISUALIZE YOURSELF TAKING?

## WHAT'S YOUR PART?

1. Dream, ask and imagine what role God might be inviting you to play in his grand mission. Is it to go, to send, to mobilize or a combination of those? Take some time to pray and reflect by yourself on what you have learned from this course and what God is saying to you. You may want to write something down: a journal-entry, a prayer, some bullet points or make a mind map.
2. Discuss your thoughts with your group. Encourage one another as you share.
3. Return to the [MomentumYes Engage](#) content. Whether you're feeling inspired to go, to send and support others, or to mobilize the church to pursue the Great Commission, there are dozens of ways you can begin to get involved. Choose at least one next step you're going to take to keep this momentum going.

# RETHINK OUR LIVES

## Next Steps

Sharing is a stake in the ground: “I’m choosing to make this official by sharing it out loud and making it more real.” Share some of the insights and next steps that God gave you.

## FINISH STRONG

1. Write down your first step to turn what you have learned into action. It could be on paper, in your phone or an action on your calendar.

2. Choose someone to be accountable to. It might be in your group or outside of it. Tell them what you’ve learned and how God is leading you.
3. Pray for each other in the group as you finish this course.
  - Pray to be more than hearers of God’s word, but doers too.
  - Ask him to protect the seeds that have been planted so that they won’t be snatched away or lost in the busyness of our lives, but instead produce a harvest for his kingdom.

# Congratulations on completing MomentumYes!

If MomentumYes has inspired you to live out God's mission or if you have used this resource to help awaken others to their roles in God's mission, **you are part of the global MomentumYes family!**

## Next Steps

### 1. Prayer

Pray for our team as we work with churches and mission agencies around the world. If you would like to receive one weekly email with three prayer prompts, email Lori Rogers, MomentumYes Executive Director at [lori@momentumyes.com](mailto:lori@momentumyes.com)

### 2. Social Media

- Connect with us on Facebook and Instagram for continued inspiration, updates, and prayer needs
- Like, comment, and share our posts so that your friends see them!
- Tag us on your posts about MomentumYes!

### 3. Pay It Forward

Help others benefit from this free resource. Prayerfully consider a gift of \$25 or more. Go to: [momentumyes.com/donate](https://momentumyes.com/donate).

### 4. Share

To share how MomentumYes has helped you find your place in God's story scan the QR code or visit [MomentumYes.com/story](https://MomentumYes.com/story).



As part of the MomentumYes family, let's stay in touch! Each believer in the global Church needs to understand their role in making Jesus known across the street and around the world. **God has no Plan B.** With all these steps, you will inspire people around the world to find their places in God's story!

**We pray that God blesses  
you on your journey to  
step from the sidelines to  
the frontlines in advancing  
God's kingdom!**

# Acknowledgments

Thank you, Jesus, for building your Church through the centuries and for promising that the gates of hell will never prevail against us. We count it an honor to be in a long line of everyday people who have bravely said yes.

Thank you to our teams of experts who have offered their coaching, expertise, creativity, long hours of investment, and prayers.

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