

# Week 3: Why Go?

#### **FACILITATOR'S NOTE:**

**Regarding COVID:** While stress from the COVID-19 pandemic is still high, be sure to check in with group members with what has come to be known as **CPR** (Care, Prayer, Remember):

- Care refers to loving and supporting each other, from helping one another with tangible needs, rejoicing in celebrations together, and supporting personal struggles with encouragement and empathy
- Prayer refers to bringing our worries and needs before God and depending on him for the answers as we
  pray for each other, our community, and the world
- **Remember** refers to reflecting on God for who He is, what He has done in our lives, and what He is capable of doing

For more resources on care and prayer, check out the Slack channels.

#### **Using the Discussion Questions:**

- ✓ Start your group discussion with the "Check-in" question to help your members reflect back on their week and follow up on last week's application challenge.
- ✓ Review the "Big Idea" to help you gain clarity around the heart of this week's message.
- ✓ Read this week's scripture passages together and guide your group through the "Discuss" questions to initiate meaningful dialogue around key concepts or insights from this week's message.
- ✓ Move your group discussion to a deeper level by leading them through questions in "Apply". Use discernment to customize these application questions to meet the needs & dynamics of your group.
  - NOTE: You do not have to cover all the "Discuss" or "Apply" questions.
- ✓ Connect with God together as a group through this month's "prayer practice", which can be in the form of a prayer exercise or some guidance on what to pray for in relation to the message or application.

CHECK-IN	What was one thing that happened in the past week that helped you deepen or strengthen your relationship with a fellow believer or group of believers?				
BIG IDEA	Go and tell, go quickly, bring in, go out of the city, go everywhere, invite everyone – that's your job as a Christian. If you have truly been saved, you've truly been transformed, you're truly born again, you're truly in the family of God, that's your job description for the rest of your life while you're here on earth.				
	Read Luke 14:15-24,				
DISCUSS	Read Luke 14:15-24,				
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## **Luke 14:16** appeals to you the most? Why?

4. Go to God for help. Go together for support. Go on to spiritual maturity. Go tell the good news. If these are the job duty descriptions for God's servants, which one do you excel at? Which one do you need to work on?

#### **APPLY**

How do we respond to God's teaching in meaningful ways? What might God ask of us in mind, spirit, or actions?

- At different seasons of life, Jesus invites us to come to him and at other times commands us to go. Determine: What season of life do you find Jesus calling you into right now?
- 2. What steps can you take to routinely go to God for help?
- 3. How can you arrange your calendar to ensure that you go together for support?
- 4. What decisions do you need to make in order to go on in spiritual maturity?
- 5. Whom is Jesus placing in your heart to go to tell the good news?

# PRAYER PRACTICE (15 minutes)

# Clenched Hands/Open Hands

In times of crisis, either full blown or background, words don't often come easily to express what we struggle with, or what we need from God. Sometimes our bodies express ourselves more honestly than our words.

This practice involves the use of our hands as a prayer.

- Taking a few deep breaths, allow for 1 minute of silence to pass in order to prepare yourself to be in God's presence...
- Now clench your hands into tight fists and hold for 1 minute. During this minute, let your hands say what your heart is heavy with. Imagine what is sinking your heart and weighing down your clenched fist...
- Now release your fists and open your hands to God. As you lift your hands, imagine also, God's life-giving presence flowing into your hands, replacing what was there before, abundantly filling your openly receiving hands. Take 3 minutes of silence to allow your hands to receive.
- Close your prayer by placing your hands over your heart, letting what was received sink into your heart.

## **Group Practice:**

As prompted by the Holy Spirit, group members share what they might have received from God during this group practice. What did you receive from God?