

LIFE GROUPS DISCUSSION GUIDE (Week of January 28, 2024)

GETTING CONNECTED @ THE TABLE

- *Share...* your favorite memory of 2023.
- *Share...*your greatest desire for 2024.
- **Share...** one new thing you'd like to try this year.

GETTING FOCUSED

• Central Theme: KINGDOM BUILDERS

• Missionary Guests:

- Ray Noah: ThePetrosNetwork.org: to reach Africa by making Jesus famous in their villages and then sending indigenous missionaries to the rest of the villages. They are also training their church planters to be food sustainable. They believe The Church can be the answer to growing world food insecurity.
- Brent Teague: Assemblies of God pastor to West Africa for 36 years, now in Ivory Coast. They're especially praying about a strategic plan for Mauritania which is completely closed to the Gospel.
- John Easter: Founder Africa's Hope. Newly elected Assemblies of God World Missions Executive Director.
- **Icebreaker:** Ray Noah shared a word God gave to him as he started Petros, "If you take care of the things I care about then I'll take care of the things you care about." What things that you care about are the most difficult to trust and turn over to God?

GROUP DISCUSSION & APPLICATION

- What is your #1 TAKEAWAY from this season's Kingdom Builders focus?
- Brent Teague said, "When you walk to church, you're in no hurry to walk home...The last service I was in was short, only 4 hours!" Would you think this kind of devotion to

church would work in Western culture? Why or why not? What's the longest church service/event you can remember attending?

- What part of your life are you willing to place less importance on so you can place more focus on the mission of building The Kingdom?
- What did you think about Pastor Noah's statement that he believes the Church can be the answer to growing worldwide food insecurity? Do you think this is a proper function for the Church? Can you see yourself becoming involved in such an effort?
- "God has said if we go he WILL be with us." (Brent Teague) Have you felt this to be true in your life experience?

GROUP PRAYER:

- Pray for all three of our missionary guests and their families.
- Pray for a strategic plan for Mauritania to be revealed to Brent Teague and the leadership of West Africa.
- Pray for God's Kingdom to move forward in our communities.

PERSONAL REFLECTION & RESPONSE THIS WEEK:

MY CALLING: Have you ever put words to a personal mission or life purpose? If not, consider beginning this process on "paper" with what's in your heart. If so, is it still relevant to your current pursuits and reality? Why or why not?

FURTHER MEDITATION: How would you answer these three personal life and mission questions from Brent Teague?

- What is the center of my life? (For Jesus it was doing the will of the Father).
- What will be the character of my life? (We are not called and are not calling others to religious conversion but to life transformation).
- What will be the impact of my life to building God's Kingdom?

DIGGING DEEPER: Read through the book of Acts and note any special instructions given to or areas of sacrifice experienced by these earliest missionaries.