A SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE

SEND ME

Small Group Guide

BASED ON THE SERMON BY PASTOR JAMES



SEE THE NEED • ANSWER THE CALL • GO

Overview

This session draws from a message rooted in the experience of a missions trip to Vicente Guerrero, Mexico, and the biblical call for every follower of Christ to see people as God sees them and to go share the gospel. The central challenge is this: missions is not only something that happens in other countries. It begins right outside our doors.

Key Scripture References

- Acts 3 — Peter and John encounter a man who had been unable to walk since birth. Rather than passing him by, they stop, see him, and offer him something far greater than money: healing through the name of Jesus Christ.
- Isaiah 6:8 — God asks who will go on his behalf. Isaiah responds with immediate availability, offering himself to be sent.
- Matthew 9:36-38 — Jesus looks at the crowds with deep compassion, describing them as distressed and without direction. He tells his disciples that the harvest is ready but the workers are few, and calls them to pray for more workers to be sent out.
- John 4:35 — Jesus urges his followers not to wait for the right moment but to look up and recognize that the fields are already ready for harvest.
- Romans 10:14 — A series of questions about how people can call on someone they have not believed in, believe in someone they have not heard of, or hear without someone to tell them.

Key Takeaways

01. **Missions begins with seeing people.** Peter and John did not walk past the man at the gate. They stopped and looked at him. Before we can share anything, we must first see people as human beings created in the image of God, not as problems, labels, or inconveniences.

02. **You always have something to give.** Peter and John had no money, but they had the name of Jesus. Regardless of your financial situation, your background, or how long you have been a believer, you carry something that the world desperately needs.

03. **The call to go belongs to everyone.** Jesus did not tell his disciples to wait until they were ready, educated, or experienced. The command to go and make disciples was immediate and universal. There is no waiting period.

04. **The harvest is already ready.** We often wait for revivals, scheduled events, or the right conditions. God is not waiting on those things. He is waiting on his people to go.

05. **One person can start a movement.** The "Jesus math" illustrated in the sermon demonstrates that one conversation, one relationship, one moment of obedience can multiply far beyond what we can imagine.

06. **Our community is our mission field.** The same compassion that moved the missions team in Mexico is needed right here at home. People in our own neighborhoods, workplaces, and families are without a shepherd.

Discussion Questions

Opening

01. When you hear the word "missions," what is the first thing that comes to mind? Has this sermon shifted or expanded that definition for you in any way?

02. Those who went on the trip described being deeply affected by what they saw. Has there ever been a moment in your life when encountering someone else's circumstances changed the way you saw your own? What happened?

Going Deeper

03. Peter and John told the man at the gate to look at them before they said or did anything else. Why do you think that moment of being truly seen mattered? Who in your life might simply need to be seen before they are ready to hear anything about Jesus?

04. The sermon drew a distinction between what the man at the gate wanted and what he actually needed. How does that apply to the people around us today? How do we balance meeting practical needs with sharing the gospel?

05. Pastor James said, "You cannot tell people about Jesus until you actually see them as they are, as people." What are some of the labels, assumptions, or judgments that might prevent us from truly seeing someone? How do we lay those down?

06. Isaiah responded to God's question with "Here I am, send me." He did not ask for more time, more training, or more information. What holds you back from responding the same way? What would it look like to say "send me" in your everyday life this week?

07. The sermon pointed out that when God shows someone a need, it is often because that person is meant to do something about it. Has God ever shown you a need that you passed off to someone else? What do you think he was inviting you to do?

08. The story of Caleb and Amy, who left New York City to run a daycare in Vicente Guerrero, began with a single trip and a six-year-old who would not stop asking when they were going back. What does their story tell us about how God uses small moments of obedience to lead us into our calling?

Personal Reflection

09. Think about the name you wrote down during the sermon. What is one specific, practical step you can take this week to move toward that person? It does not have to be a full gospel presentation. It might be a phone call, a meal, or simply showing up.

10. The sermon described a culture of complaining and comfort in contrast to the joy and generosity seen in a community that had very little. Where in your own life do you sense God calling you to greater gratitude or greater generosity?

Practical Applications

This Week

- Keep the name you wrote down somewhere visible. Pray over that person every day this week by name. Ask God specifically to open a door for a natural conversation and to give you the words when that moment comes.
- Practice seeing people. In every interaction this week, whether at a store, a gas station, a school, or a workplace, make a conscious effort to see the person in front of you as a human being created by God. Make eye contact. Ask how they are doing and mean it.
- If you are aware of a tangible need that you have the ability to meet, meet it. Do not pass it along. Ask God how he wants to use what you already have.

This Month

- Identify one person in your life you have been avoiding, dismissing, or judging. Pray for a change in your own perspective before you do anything else. Ask God to help you see them the way he does.
- As a small group, consider identifying one need in your local community that you can collectively address. It does not require a large budget or a formal program. Start with what you have.

- Share with the group next week whether a door opened with the person whose name you wrote down. Celebrate every step, not just the moments of someone praying to receive Christ. A kind word, a returned phone call, or a shared meal is also part of the harvest.

Closing Prayer Focus

Close your time together by praying specifically for the names each group member wrote down. You do not need to share the names aloud if you are not comfortable doing so. Ask God to soften hearts, open doors, and give each person in the group the courage and the words to go when the moment comes. Pray also for the family in Vicente Guerrero whose home was built, and for the ongoing work being done through organizations like YWAM in communities around the world.

The harvest is plentiful. The workers are few. Lord, send us.