MISSION, VALUES, AND CULTURE

Teacher’s Manual

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### 

### OBJECTIVES

At the end of this course, the participants should:

• know and appreciate the history of Every Nation

• explain and embrace the Every Nation mission

• examine and apply the Every Nation values and culture

**OVERVIEW**

Session 1: **History**

Session 2: **Passing the Baton: The Gospel**

Session 3: **Mission I**

Session 4: **Mission II**

Session 5: **Core Values**

Session 6: **Every Nation Culture**

# THINGS TO KNOW

[Important notes for the teachers of this course]

The majority of the teaching for this course is adapted from Pastor Steve’s book, *100 Years from Now*. This book explores the importance of understanding the mission, values, and culture of Every Nation in order to grow and sustain our movement throughout the generations.

# In this teacher's manual, students' notes are enclosed in boxes for easy reference. The blanks in the students' manual have been filled in this manual. However, spaces for notes in the students' manual have been removed from this teacher's manual. Also, notes enclosed in brackets in this manual are guidelines or recommendations for teachers.

This course has a total of six sessions of at most 60 minutes per session. All the sessions have video courses with Pastor Jun Escosar as the speaker. The first day will comprise of sessions 1 to 3, and the rest of the sessions (4 to 6) will be at the second day. The local center has the discretion to either show all the videos, or use the videos as teacher's resource. Each video is about twenty-five minutes long. If the center prefers a live teacher, the center needs to show the required videos for sessions 1 and 6. Example:

***Day 1***

*Session 1 Show video*

*Session 2­­­ Live teacher*

*Session 3 Live teacher*

***Day 2***

*Session 4 Live teacher*

*Session 5­­­ Live teacher*

*Session 6 Show video*

The general structure to be followed for each session includes: teaching, application (through discussion questions), class processing, and activity (when applicable). Please note that the discussions and activities may be revised based on context and location. More time may be allotted for the activity. Most discussions and activities are done in small groups. As much as possible, the teacher should encourage a variety of group sizes and compositions every time. Removing the application and activities to give way for a longer teaching session is not recommended. Class processing is done at the end of the application (discussion questions) to gauge individual learnings and possibly answer questions the participants might have. A ten-minute break should be given after every session.

The goal is to be engaging and dynamic by creating variety in content delivery during teaching.

Deviation from teaching notes comes with preparation and mastery. All teachers are encouraged to vary the methods of teaching, but not at the expense of omitting content by adding extra-biblical material. Allow for participants to interact with the material and with the other participants, thus giving way to discussion, activities, and application.

As a teacher, focus your preparation time on communicating the key points of each session and giving examples or illustrations that will inspire and encourage the participants. Not all the provided illustrations from the teacher's notes have to be used, and others may be substituted for more relevant or personal illustrations.

It is highly recommended that Scripture narratives used in explaining points be delivered by storytelling, whereas short verses may simply be read verbatim to support the validity of key thoughts. Please note that the students' manual uses the ESV Bible translation but the video course uses the NIV Bible translation since the majority of the content came from the book of Pastor Steve which uses NIV as well.

Also, a list of logistical needs is provided for some sessions so the teacher and administrative staff or volunteer can adequately prepare all videos, supplies, and materials.

Lastly, a simple evaluation form is provided at the end of this course. Please allow for participants to fill this out and submit by the end of the final session. This will help provide feedback for improvement and future implementation of the course.

### SUGGESTED TIME ALLOTMENT PER TOPIC

*[Please allow for flexibility in the time allotment.]*

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| **DAY 1** | | |
| SESSION 1 | DURATION | TOPIC |
| **History** | 5 minutes | Welcome and Introduction |
| 25 minutes | Video |
| 10 minutes | Application |
| 5 minutes | Class Processing |
| 5 minutes | History Video (Radical series) |
| 10 minutes | Break |
| SESSION 2 |  |  |
| **Passing the Baton:**  **The Gospel** | 25 minutes | Video or Lecture by a Live Teacher |
| 15 minutes | Application |
| 10 minutes | Class Processing |
| 10 minutes | Break |
| SESSION 3 |  |  |
| **Mission I** | 25 minutes | Video or Lecture by a Live Teacher |
| 15 minutes | Application |
| 10 minutes | Class Processing |
| 5 minutes | Assignment |
| 5 minutes | End of Day 1 - Instructions |
| **DAY 2** | | |
| SESSION 4 |  |  |
| **Mission II** | 10 minutes | Activity (Memory Game) |
| 25 minutes | Video or Lecture by a Live Teacher |
| 10 minutes | Application |
| 5 minutes | Class Processing |
| 10 minutes | Break |
| SESSION 5 |  |  |
| **Core Values** | 25 minutes | Video or Lecture by a Live Teacher |
| 15 minutes | Application |
| 10 minutes | Class Processing |
| 10 minutes | Break |
| SESSION 6 |  |  |
| **Every Nation Culture** | 25 minutes | Video |
| 15 minutes | Application |
| 10 minutes | Class Processing |
| 10 minutes | End of Mission, Values, and Culture |

# Session 1 – HISTORY

### LOGISTICAL NEEDS

* video course by Pastor Jun Escosar
* history video from Radical series in 2014

### BACKGROUND of the speaker

Dr. Jun Escosar is the director of the International Apostolic Team of Every Nation Churches & Ministries, a movement with a vision to establish churches and campus ministries in every nation. So far, Every Nation has established churches in seventy-three countries.

For over thirty years, Jun has lived out a passion for leadership development, church planting, and cross-cultural missions. As Asia missions director, he strengthened Every Nation’s international church planting efforts by ministering to leaders in over forty-five nations.

Jun holds a Doctorate of Missiology degree from the Asian Graduate School of Theology. He is also a part of the apostolic team of Victory in the Philippines.

He has been married to his wife, Gigi, for almost thirty years. They have two children, Rachel and John Daniel.

[If there are other things you want to say about Pastor Jun, you may add your own personal touch to introduce him to the participants.]

### welcome and introduction (5 minutes)

The majority of the teaching for this course is adapted from Pastor Steve’s book, *100 Years from Now*. It is fitting that the majority of the content came from a man who not only is the founding pastor of Victory, but is one who stewarded and guarded the good deposit entrusted to this movement—with the help of the Holy Spirit.

Pastor Steve is the founding pastor of Victory in Manila, Philippines, and the president of Every Nation Churches & Ministries. He and his wife, Deborah, have three sons and they split their time between Nashville and Manila.

Let's start by looking at our history—**HIS STORY** of us.

So we ask the question: Where did we come from? And what is our story?

We have two distinct stories to tell when it comes to our beginnings.

One is the story about how Victory came about, and the other is the story of Every Nation.

### lecture (25 minutes)

**The Victory Story**

Everything started in June 15, 1984 at the Girl’s Scout Auditorium in Padre Faura when sixty-five young Americans, mostly students, came for a two-month summer missions outreach to plant a church in Manila (one month – Manila; one month is Seoul). The whole outreach was led by Pastor Rice Broocks. Along with him were Pastor Steve and Deborah Murrell whom Pastor Rice invited to lead the summer missions team. Little did they (Steve and Deborah) know that their two-month commitment in Manila will turn to out to become over twenty-five years, since the Lord spoke to them to stay in the Philippines, pastor the church, and raise up Filipino leaders to do the works of the ministry.

Over 30 years later, we now have over 80 thousand disciples (and counting), attending 16 different Victory locations all over Metro Manila.

Outside Metro Manila, as of 2015, we had 67 Victory churches planted in every major city of the Philippines and scores of other churches are in the process of getting planted.

Pastor Jun was one of the privileged few to witness the unfolding of our entire history in the Philippines because he came in on the third day since the founding of this ministry. Everything started in June 15, 1984; Pastor Jun came on-board on June 17, 1984.

Pastor Jun had the privilege of experiencing the many firsts. He was the first Filipino pastor to go in full-time ministry, first worship leader, first campus director, first missions' director, and one of the very first people to get married in the church.

This gave Pastor Jun the advantage of perspective, having seen how this entire ministry developed and how it has raised an army of Filipino leaders who planted churches, and discipled many cities, campuses, and nations in the years that followed.

**The Every Nation Story**

Six years after Pastor Steve and Deborah planted the church in the Philippines (1990), the ministry that sent them to the Philippines closed down. They were left alone with no covering, no support and no funding.

But by the grace of God, the church in the Philippines continued to grow, raised more leaders, and expanded in several key cities all over the Philippines and even planted several churches in Asia.

Pastor Steve got a call again from Pastor Rice and Pastor Phil. They all used to be a part of the ministry that closed down, but they still maintained their friendship through the years.

Rice and Phil were responding to a "Macedonian Call" to Asia primarily to plant a church in Singapore and Malaysia. The logical thing to do was to swing by Manila to seek Steve’s help because he was based in Asia and was already planting churches in Asia.

That evening in the den of the house of Pastor Steve, a miracle has happened which is now dubbed as “The Manila Miracle”. Because of their similar passion to do church planting, campus ministry, and world missions, they decided to join their three ministries together—that led to the founding of Every Nation Ministries.

The coming together of these three leaders was not because their ministry was struggling or failing. To the contrary, all their ministries were considered growing and successful. Every Nation came about because these three leaders (Rice, Steve, and Phil) believed that they could accomplish more together than apart. In short, they believed they could be BETTER TOGETHER! The greater blessing came when just a few weeks later, several old friends who heard about “The Manila Miracle”, also expressed their hearts to join Every Nation.

**Better Together**

There’s definitely something powerful about BETTER TOGETHER!

We can easily learn a lesson about the power of being better together as we reflect on an important story in the Bible about the life of four young men—Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. They were taken as captives to the pagan nation of Babylon. But they refused to compromise. They refused to defile themselves with the food offered by the king. They asked the Babylonian officials to test them for ten days and compare them to those who eat the royal food while they only eat vegetables and water.

Here’s the result:

Daniel 1:15 *At the end of ten days it was seen that they were better in appearance and fatter in flesh than all the youths who ate the king's food.*

Daniel 1:20 *And in every matter of wisdom and understanding about which the king inquired of them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and enchanters that were in all his kingdom.*

In short, they were not only better together, but they were ten times better together.

More than 350 years before Daniel and his friends helped each other become ten times better in Babylon, King Solomon recognized this same principle of being better together and wrote about it. Let’s read Ecclesiastes 4:8-12.

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| *8. . . one person who has no other, either son or brother, yet there is no end to all his toil, and his eyes are never satisfied with riches, so that he never asks, “For whom am I toiling and depriving myself of pleasure?” This also is vanity and an unhappy business. 9Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. 10For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! 11Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? 12And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him—a threefold cord is not quickly broken.*  ECCLESIASTES 4:8-12 |

### EXPLANATION

Better together has obvious advantages—like good return, people helping you when you fall, people protecting you. One of the great blessings to help us deal with problems of loneliness, lack, oppression, injustice, and even sickness, is the company of others.

Life is designed for companionship, friendship, and fellowship—not isolation. We have to think TEAM. We have to learn to work with others.

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| **Four Reasons We are Better Together**  1. Increased productivity (1)  *Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil.*  ECCLESIASTES 4:9 |

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| 2. Increased protection (2)  *For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up!*  ECCLESIASTES 4:10 |

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| 3. Increased passion (3)  *Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone?*  ECCLESIASTES 4:11 |

### EXPLANATION

We need to surround ourselves with people that are on fire for God, people who have more passion for Jesus and His mission. They can add fuel to our fire or rekindle our fire especially when it starts to flicker.

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| 4. Increased power (4)  *And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him—a threefold cord is not quickly broken.*  ECCLESIASTES 4:12 |

### EXPLANATION

Pastor Steve always says, "mission is what brings us together, but it is relationship that keeps us together." For non-Victory members, it is quite understandable for them to infer that maybe the reason Victory grows or is fairly successful is because of discipleship, or facilities, or sermons, or worship, or kids church ministry and other factors. While that may be true, the primary strength and reason we are healthy and successful is because of our relationships with one another.

John 13:35 *"By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”*

Because of the value and the premium we put on our relationships, by God’s grace we have no church split for the past 31 years, and certainly no politics, no lobbying, and no power playing to leverage for position and influence.

This is why we are BETTER TOGETHER!

Let's conclude this session by looking at not only the importance of this course, but by looking at the benefits and advantage of being on the same page with our Every Nation mission, values and culture.

[The teacher may share his or her personal experiences to expound on the following points.]

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| **Importance of Mission and Values**  1. Clarity (5): Describes the purpose of our existence and what we want to accomplish in the future |

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| 2. Unity (6): Shared vision and values that unify a group of people  *And the Lord said, “Behold, they are one people, and they have all one language, and this is only the beginning of what they will do. And nothing that they propose to do will now be impossible for them.*  GENESIS 11:6 |

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| 3. Focus (7): Helps us determine the priority and guides us where to invest our time, energy, and money |

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| 4. Synergy (8): Cooperative action resulting in a total effect greater than the sum of what each party could produce independently |

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| 5. Ownership (9)  People value what they own more than what they do not. Members who own the vision are likely to commit, uphold, and promote these essential values. |

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| 6. Destination check (10)  *“Do two walk together, unless they have agreed to meet?”*  AMOS 3:3 |

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| applicatioN (10 MINUTES)  1. Share briefly how you became part of Victory. What made you stay? Who are the people you are currently walking with? 2. The Victory group is a good example of God-given relationships. Applying what you have just learned, how can your Victory group become better together? |

### CLASS PROCESSING (5 MINUTES)

### At this point, the teacher will ask two to three participants to share what they have discussed in the group discussion during the application.

(5 MINUTES) [Show the history video from Radical.]

Before showing the video to the class, the teacher will inform the students that this particular video was shown during *Radical* series back in 2014 and the details and information about the church plants and the like, are already outdated. However, we would like to still show this video to reinforce the students' learnings on the history of our movement.

### BREAK (10 MINUTES)

# Session 2 – PASSING THE BATON: THE GOSPEL

### LOGISTICAL NEEDS

* video course by Pastor Jun Escosar (if there's no live teacher)

### introduction

[In this session, we want to talk about the importance about passing the baton carefully and successfully to the next generation. We will also look into what the Every Nation baton is.]

### lecture (25 minutes)

Knowing our vision and values do not only enable us to be better together, it also ensures that we steward the vision God gave us to successfully and carefully pass it down to the next generations of leaders.

The generation of Joshua is probably considered one of the greatest. For in his lifetime, all the people served the Lord (Joshua 24:31), and not a single promise of God failed (Joshua 23:14). Yet we see one of the saddest commentaries in the Bible about Joshua one generation later.

*10And all that generation also were gathered to their fathers. And there arose another generation after them who did not know the Lord or the work that he had done for Israel. 11And the people of Israel did what was evil in the sight of the Lord and served the Baals.*

JUDGES 2:10

This course is about making sure we do not drop the baton, but carefully and successfully pass it on to the next generation.

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| **What is the Baton?** |

### EXPLANATION

In our Every Nation context, the baton is about four things.

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| 1. Gospel (1): is the most important baton we have to pass to the next generation. |

### EXPLANATION

The gospel is the most important baton we have to pass to the next generation. For in the gospel lies the greatest news about the life and message of Jesus that brings salvation, forgiveness, reconciliation, restoration, healing, and adoption of sinners like us. If we drop the gospel baton, everything else we do in ministry is a waste of time.

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| 2. Mission (2): is knowing who we are, where we are going, and what we are called to do. |

### EXPLANATION

At the heart of our mission is knowing who we are and what we are called to do. This is the reason for our existence. They point us to things that really matter.

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| 3. Values (3): describe our ministry distinctives and address how we do what we do. |

### EXPLANATION

Our core values describe our ministry distinctive and address how we do what we do. They also communicate what is important to us and influence our overall behavior. Every Nation has five core values that describe what we do: Lordship, Evangelism, Discipleship, Leadership Development and Family.

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| 4. Culture (4): is important for establishing what is considered normal and standard within the organization and influences all aspects of ministry life. |

### EXPLANATION

Ministry culture is important for establishing what is considered normal and standard within the organization and influences all aspects of ministry life.

This culture provides stability, identity, and competitive advantage resulting to health, growth, and vitality in the movement. Process flourishes best in a healthy culture. Neither one is effective without the other. Many have attempted to copy a discipleship process, but without a discipleship culture, the process becomes like a muscle car with no fuel.

Consider what Paul said about passing the Gospel baton:

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| **The Gospel**  *1Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, 2and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you— unless you believed in vain. 3For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, 4that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures . . .*  1 CORINTHIANS 15:1-4 |

### EXPLANATION

There are definitely many things we need to know and understand about the various doctrines in the Bible, but the gospel is something we need to know and experience as of “first importance.” The gospel is what saves us.

Paul testifies in Romans 1:16: *I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile*.

If the gospel is what saves us, it is imperative that we know what the true gospel is. The Book of Galatians issued several warning concerning the false gospel.

*6I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you by the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel— 7which is really no gospel at all. Evidently some people are throwing you into confusion and are trying to pervert the gospel of Christ. 8But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let him be eternally condemned! 9As we have already said, so now I say again: If anybody is preaching to you a gospel other than what you accepted, let him be eternally condemned!*

GALATIANS 1:6-9

These are very strong language coming from the Apostle Paul. Why? Because there is such a thing as a different gospel. And it is a false gospel. It brings confusion, it is a perverted version of the true gospel. This was such a big deal to Paul that he said that the severe consequence for preaching or embracing this different gospel is eternal condemnation.

On the other hand, there is similar consequence for rejecting or not obeying the true gospel.

*6God is just: He will pay back trouble to those who trouble you 7and give relief to you who are troubled, and to us as well. This will happen when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven in blazing fire with his powerful angels. 8He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. 9They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the majesty of his power 10on the day he comes to be glorified in his holy people and to be marveled at among all those who have believed. This includes you, because you believed our testimony to you.*

2 THESSALONIANS 1:6-10

Paul being aware of this consequence is gripped with a sense of urgency, so much so that he has devoted his entire life to bringing lost souls into Jesus.

Acts 20:24 *But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.*

So what is the true gospel?

Dr. Rice Broocks, in his book *God’s Not Dead,* gives us a summary of the gospel:

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| **What is the Gospel?**  “The Gospel is the good news that God became man in Jesus Christ (5). He lived the life we should have lived and died (6) the death we should have died—in our place. Three days later He rose (7) from the dead, proving He is the Son (8) of God and offering the gift (9) of salvation and forgiveness of sins to anyone who repents(10) and believes in Him.”  —Dr. Rice Broocks |

### EXPLANATION

The difficulty we have with the gospel is not because it is complicated, but because it offends people’s pride.

The apostle Paul wrote:

*22For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, 23but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles . . .*

1 CORINTHIANS 1:22,23

Consider these two opposite objections: The first rejects the gospel because it demands that they acknowledge themselves as sinners in need of a Savior; and the other rejects the gospel because it requires them to acknowledge that no amount of good works can atone for any of their past, present, and future sins.

Prof. John Gerstner in his little book, *A Primer on Justification*, provides a simple way of understanding the biblical gospel formula—Justification by grace through faith alone. Gerstner also describes the several historic departures from the true gospel.

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| Several historic departures from the gospel:  1. First departure: Liberalism (11)  Works = Justification - Faith |

### EXPLANATION

This particular departure from the gospel results in people believing they are justified before God without the need to receive Christ’s blood atonement by faith. They believe that their "good works" are good enough to justify and save them.

In other words, good works equal justification before God without the need of (minus) faith.

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| 2. Second departure: Antinomianism (12)  Faith = Justification - Works |

### EXPLANATION

Antinomianism literally means “without law.” It refers to the belief that individuals are justified before God by faith alone without any corresponding change in moral or ethical behavior. Antinomianism departs from the true gospel by omitting repentance, Lordship, and sanctification. Justification by faith becomes “just a vacation by faith.” Thus, in the antinomian gospel, faith equals justification without the need of (minus) works.

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| 3. Third departure: Legalism (13)  Faith + Works = Justification |

### EXPLANATION

Gerstner refer to this as the Roman Catholic departure, although legalism is certainly not exclusive to Catholicism. We can also observe a lot of legalism happening even among Pentecostals, Baptists, and other evangelicals to add to their own version of good works to faith.

If we are not careful, we even see them creeping into our own lives. Legalism usually occurs when traditions and additional requirements are added to the gospel. Some example might include praying to the saints, praying the rosary, deification of Mary, observance of certain dress codes, abstaining from certain foods, not watching movies. But then there are others we are so accustomed to like praying in tongues or confessing the Word. While these are important, if we think that by doing them that somehow God will like us more, or might invoke God’s special blessings, then they become add-ons. This kind of thinking dilutes the true gospel, leading people to wrongly believe that justification is at least partially dependent on their good works. Consequently, their formula for justification becomes: faith plus works equals justification.

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| So what is the true gospel?  **Faith = Justification + Works** |

The Apostle Paul wrote to the Ephesians:

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| 8*For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God,* 9*not a result of works, so that no one may boast.* 10*For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.*  EPHESIANS 2:8-10 |

We see clearly from this passage that salvation is by grace, salvation is through faith, it is a gift of God – it is not from ourselves nor is it a result of our works.

*. . . he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy . . .*

TITUS 3:5

When we put our faith in Christ as the only means of our salvation, God considers us righteous. He becomes our righteousness. We become righteous not because of our own works or anything we have done, but purely on the merits of what Christ has done. Christ imputes His righteousness to our account and our sins are forgiven.

*For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.*

2 CORINTHIANS 5:21

So where is the proper place of work?

We are saved for good works, but not by good works. Theologian FF Bruce said, “Justification is by faith alone, but the faith that justifies is not alone.”

Good works cannot be the foundation that will result to salvation. To the contrary, salvation by grace is the foundation that result to good works, not the other way around. Our hope must be built on nothing less than Jesus’ blood and righteousness—and when we have built a foundation with that, we may have as many good works as we like—the more the better!

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| application (15 MINUTES)  1. Which departure from the gospel did you embrace when you were not a disciple of Christ yet? 2. Which departure from the gospel do you encounter the most when preaching the gospel? How would you preach the gospel to people who believe such a departure? |

### CLASS PROCESSING (10 MINUTES)

### At this point, the teacher will ask two to three people to share what they have discussed in the group discussions during application.

### BREAK (10 MINUTES)

# Session 3 – MISSION I

### LOGISTICAL NEEDS

* video course by Pastor Jun Escosar (if there's no live teacher)

### introduction

One of the ways we live out the implications of the gospel and how we live for something bigger than ourselves are summarized in our Every Nation mission statement:

### lecture (25 minutes)

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| **The Every Nation Mission Statement**  We exist to honor God by establishing Christ-centered, Spirit-empowered, socially responsible churches and campus ministries in every nation. |

### EXPLANATION

At the heart of our mission is knowing who we are and what we are called to do. This is the reason for our existence. They point us to things that really matter.

Our Mission Statement answer four important questions:

• Why do we exist? To honor God

• What are we called to do? To establish churches and campus ministries

• How do we build? Christ-centered, Spirit-Empowered, socially responsible

• Where are we called? every nation

Let’s take a closer look at each of these questions.

A. Why do we exist?

- to honor God

This is the starting point. Westminster Shorter Catechism summarizes for us the chief end of man: "Man’s chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy him forever."

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| **To Honor God . . .**  *. . . for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.*  1 CORINTHIANS 6:20 |

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| *So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.*  1 CORINTHIANS 10:31 |

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| *For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.*  ROMANS 11:36 |

### EXPLANATION

The Honor of God is the dominating and ultimate priority of our mission. God’s honor was and always will be the Every Nation starting line. It will always be the plumb line and our finish line. When we say Every Nation exists to Honor God, we mean it in every way—both in ministry and in our private lives.

We desire to honor God by being faithful to believe and obey His Word. We want to honor God both in our motivation and in our methods, and from the deepest corners of our hearts and minds.

It is both wise and helpful for us as individuals and as a ministry to evaluate everything—our internal motives as well as our external actions—on whether or not they honor God.

**The Honor of God**

Making a deliberate decision to put the HONOR of GOD above everything we do is probably the most important decision we have ever made as a ministry. This is what sustained us, protected us, and bestowed the blessings and the favor of God upon us.

We are certainly not the biggest, the brightest or the best ministry, but because our hearts were set to honor God in every area of our lives even from the very beginning, we have experienced the amazing grace, favor and blessings of God. The overwhelming growth, provision, quality of leaders and volunteers who serve, the UNITY—the fact that there is NO SPLIT for over 30 years now is nothing short of a miracle from God. With over 400 pastors and missionaries who are young, gifted, and highly opinionated, and to still be together after 31 years, the only logical explanation is because everyone set their hearts to HONOR GOD.

The only possible way for strong and gifted leaders to walk together in so much unity and love is to get our eyes and focus off of ourselves, our ideas and our agenda, and turn to Jesus, to live for His HONOR, His purpose and His agenda for our lives.

That’s the secret to our success! One more thing, honoring God is from the heart.

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| *6And he said to them, “Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written, ‘This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me; 7in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.’ 8You leave the commandment of God and hold to the tradition of men.”*  MARK 7:6-8 |

There are three things we need to understand about honoring God.

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| 1. Honoring God starts from the heart (1). |

### EXPLANATION

The problem starts when our focus shifts from the Spirit of the law to the letter of the law; and the external becomes more important than the internal (the heart). The Pharisees’ obsession with surface issues has led them to miss the heart of the matter.

The quote from the prophet Isaiah speaks to their hypocrisy. Hypocrisy is pretense of having a virtuous character. It is a show or display. In Greek, it means playacting. Their worship of God has become mere lip service, as they go through all the right motions but have no real inner devotion.

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| 2. Honoring God from the heart means worshiping Him in Spirit and truth (2). |

### EXPLANATION

True worship is not about rules and regulations; it’s not about liturgies and hymns. True worship is a matter of grace.

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| 3. Honoring God from the heart means obeying His Word (3). |

### EXPLANATION

Jesus charged the Pharisees with actual disobedience of God’s commandment through their preference for the oral law. The Pharisees claimed that the Bible only told us what God wanted us to do, but it didn’t always tell us how to do it rendering the Bible inadequate to live a holy life.

They exalted the traditions of the elders to the same level as the Bible itself. In such case, we don’t adjust God’s Word to our situation, our situation should adjust to God’s Word.

Let's answer the second question:

B. What are we called to do?

- establish churches and campus ministries

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| **By Establishing Churches**  Why plant churches? |

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| 1. Apostolic (4) mandate |

### EXPLANATION

We are not just called to go and get decisions, but to make disciples. Without a local church, it's almost impossible to make disciples.

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| 2. Cultural (5) mandate |

### EXPLANATION

We are called to disciple and impact our culture with the gospel through the local church.

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| **By Establishing Campus Ministries** |

### EXPLANATION

Part of God’s stewardship to us as Victory and Every Nation is a call to disciple the future leaders of our nation and the majority of them are in the campuses today. In the Philippines, 65% of all the youth are in the campuses.

Here are eight compelling reason why we should reach the campus.

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| 1. The future leaders (6) of our society are on our campuses. |

### EXPLANATION

Future leaders in government, education, judiciary, military, business, arts, media, medicine, science and technology—the campus is where we find the future influencers in every critical aspect of our nation’s culture.

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| 2. Major movements (7) start on the campus. |

### EXPLANATION

The campus is the birthplace of change—whether they be spiritual revival or political revolution.

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| 3. The majority of people who become Christians do so as students (8). |

### EXPLANATION

It is a fact that 19 out of 20 students who give their lives to Jesus, do so before they reach the age of 25.

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| 4. International students impact their nations (9). |

### EXPLANATION

International students represent the top 1% of students in their nations. Many of them come from influential families. They are children of business leaders, government officials, and even royalty. Many of them come from nations that restrict or ban the gospel. By reaching them while they are on our campuses, training them, and sending them home with the gospel, we can revolutionize world missions.

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| 5. The values on campus become the values in society (10). |

### EXPLANATION

Values are not neutral. They are either for or against God. The philosophy, morality, and ethics taught by professors on university will slowly work their way into public policy, media, and education. These in turn is perpetuated and reflected through legislation, education, music, movies, literature, and media.

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| 6. The most available and trainable (11) masses of people are on our campuses. |

### EXPLANATION

Students at universities are trying to figure out what to do with their lives. They will be in campus for many number of years. In short they are captive audience to the gospel and to discipleship.

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| 7. When we reach a student, we reach a family (12). |

### EXPLANATION

New Testament pattern of church growth often include entire families turning to Christ. Other members of the family are impacted by the stories from students who return home with a changed life!

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| 8. God promised to pour out His Spirit (13) upon our sons and daughters. |

### EXPLANATION

God promised an unprecedented outpouring of His Spirit among the youth of the world. And we see it happening in our campuses today. We must prepare for the harvest by sending campus missionaries equipped to disciple the next generation of leaders.

We praise God that to date, we have over 300 full-time campus missionaries all over the Philippines. But we need to pray for more, for the harvest is plentiful indeed.

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| Application (15 MINUTES)  1. How can you honor God every day in your life? How can you help the people in your Victory group honor God in their lives? 2. Does reaching the next generation resonate with you? Why or why not? What is your part in reaching the next generation? |

### CLASS PROCESSING (10 MINUTES)

### At this point, the teacher will ask two to three people to share what they have discussed in the group discussions during application.

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| ASSIGNMENT (5 MINUTES)Share the mission statement to someone or one person in church. (Share what it means not just the statement). |

### END OF DAY 1 instructions (5 MINUTES)

# Session 4 – MISSION II

### LOGISTICAL NEEDS

* video course by Pastor Jun Escosar (if there's no live teacher)

### PRE-SESSION activity (10 minutes)

**Memory Game**

This activity will help reinforce the learnings on the Every Nation mission from the third session.

A lot of leaders don’t know the mission statement by heart. If they don’t remember the statement, they won’t be able to run with it and share it properly.

**Mechanics**

Group the participants into five groups (or adjust group size according to the class size). Each group will simultaneously recite the Every Nation mission statement as one group with one person saying each word in the mission statement for two rounds (honesty system). The first group who completes two rounds is the winner and will shout as a team. If a person says the wrong word, the group will go back to the first person and repeat everything. The winning group will present in front and do what they did in front of the class.

### lecture (25 minutes)

C. How do we build?

- Christ-centered, Spirit-empowered, socially responsible

What does Christ-centered mean?

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| **Christ-centered**  *17And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. 18And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent.*  COLOSSIANS 1:17,18 |

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| 1. Everything (1) means Jesus should be the center of our lives. |

### EXPLANATION

The first word “everything” implies not just religious and eternal things. He should be the center of our lives, our marriages, our families, our churches; He should be the center of every sermon, every song, every prayer, every meeting, every worship service—EVERYTHING!

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| 2. Supremacy (2) means He is the foundation and the cornerstone, the starting line and the finish line. |

### EXPLANATION

The second word “supremacy” does not mean first of many, or that Jesus is top priority on our long list of priorities. Rather, Supremacy means He is the foundation and Cornerstone, the starting line and the finish line. He is the beginning, the middle, and the end. He is the ultimate. Nothing compares. Nothing competes. Supremacy is everything!

Beware of the wrong center:

1. The Preacher-centered church – revolves around the great man of God.

2. The Experience-centered church – start following signs and wonders rather than following Jesus.

3. The Worship-centered church – when our experience of “The Presence” becomes more important than the Person who is present.

4. The Doctrine-centered church – correct doctrine is essential but should not replace the person of Christ.

5. The Cause-centered church ­– the cause no matter how important should never be at the center.

6. The Meeting-centered church – ultimate goal of meeting together is not to have a service but to meet Jesus.

7. The fellowship-centered church ­– our relationship with one another should never replace Jesus.

Lesson from Luke 2:41-44 - Losing Jesus in the Midst of Religion

All who want to live Christ-centered lives could learn a lesson from this story.

*41Every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the Feast of the Passover. 42When he was twelve years old, they went up to the Feast, according to the custom. 43After the Feast was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. 44Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for a day.*

LUKE 2:41-44

1. They lost Jesus while doing their religious duty. v.41

2. They lost Jesus but didn’t realize it. v.43

3. They assumed Jesus was with them, but He was not. v.44

This is what Christ-centered means—Jesus is at the throne; He is at the center. In everything He has the chief place, the first and most important place above all others.

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| **Spirit-empowered**  1. To be Spirit-empowered simply means allowing the Holy Spirit to lead (3) and empower us.  *For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.*  ROMANS 8:14 |

### EXPLANATION

Spirit-empowered is the divine work of God through His Holy Spirit expressing His divine authority to carry out the work God called us to do—which is to point people to Christ and to be His witnesses.

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| 2. The word empower means “to give power.” (4) |

### EXPLANATION

The word "empower" means “to give power, to authorize.” It also means “to enable or permit.” When you are empowered, you are enabled or permitted to do the ministry you are called to do.

Spirit-empowered is letting the Holy Spirit take the lead and empower you.

Romans 8:14 . . . *because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.*

To be Spirit-empowered, we have to watch out for two extremes:

1. Some churches are so experienced-driven in the quest to become Spirit-filled that they become weird.
2. Others are so devoid of the Spirit that they are dead.

Being truly Spirit-filled and Spirit-empowered will keep us out of both extremes. To avoid these extremes and to stay on the safe side, we need a healthy balance of the Spirit and the Word. The Spirit without the Word opens us up to delusion. The Holy Spirit will always guide us according to Scriptures and never contrary to them.

Luke 24:49 *"I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”*

Acts 1:8 *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.”*

According to Acts 1:8, the evidence of being Spirit-empowered is that we become witnesses for Christ. In other words, we become more missional, not more mystical. When Christians are Spirit-empowered, they become bold, public witnesses to the resurrection and to the gospel. And the foremost evidence of being filled and baptized with the power of the Holy Spirit is that we are bearing fruit. In doing so, we *“prove to be His disciples”* (John 15:8).

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| **Socially Responsible**  We are committed to social responsibility for three reasons.  1. Jesus calls us to serve (5) the least of these.  *35 “‘For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me. . . .’” 40“And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.’”*  MATTHEW 25:35,40 |

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| 2. Jesus calls us to be salt and light (6) in our communities.  *13“You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people’s feet. 14“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden . . . 16“In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.”*  MATTHEW 5:13,14,16 |

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| 3. God calls us to stand for justice (7).  *He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?*  MICAH 6:8 |

### EXPLANATION

*17For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great, the mighty, and the awesome God, who is not partial and takes no bribe. 18He executes justice for the fatherless and the widow, and loves the sojourner, giving him food and clothing. 19Love the sojourner, therefore, for you were sojourners in the land of Egypt.*

DEUTERONOMY 10:17-19

Although social responsibility is expressed in different ways to different regions, the one thing that should stand in common is to be unapologetically Christ-centered. Several expressions of social responsibility across the Every Nation world range from rescuing victims of child trafficking, providing shelter for young girls from abusive backgrounds, serving children living in brothels, taking care of kids infected with HIV, relief and development, short-term medical missions, inner city after school programs, adoption services, and providing scholarships to poor but deserving students.

Avoiding extremes:

There has been an issue raised concerning the balance of gospel preaching versus social responsibility. In Every Nation, we don’t believe this to be an issue. Because we believe in both. We both care for the poor, as well as staying faithful to our commission to preach the gospel.

Jesus preached the gospel to many poor people, but He also healed a lot of sick people (Matthew 11:4-6), He reached out to foreigners and condemned those who oppressed the needy. He also pronounced woes upon the Pharisees who were big on religion but not all that concerned with needy people.

The bottom line: Social responsibility is about helping people and pointing them to Jesus. Every life changed is a generation changed.

D. Where are we called?

- to every nation

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| **Every Nation**  The Great Commission  *18And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”*  MATTHEW 28:18-20 |

### EXPLANATION

The calling of Every Nation is to establish churches and campus ministries in EVERY NATION. We are targeting cities all over the world that have high concentrations of university students.

Currently we have a little over 2,000 Every Nation churches in seventy nations. That means there are 125 more nations without an Every Nation Church. Someone needs to go to those nations.

In Asia, we have a total of 58 nations which represent 60% of the world's entire population. We are already in 46 of them. We have only 16 more nations to go to reach the greater Asia region which includes the Middle East and Central Asia.

Psalm 2:8 *Ask of me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession.*

Mark 11:17 *And as he taught them, he said, “Is it not written: “‘My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations?'"*

I would like to challenge all members of Victory to pray for at least one nation. Pray that God will send workers. Pray for open doors. Pray for local leaders to rise up and take the rest of their nation for Jesus.

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| The Great Commission is about GO and tell (8).  *13For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” 14How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? 15And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!”*  ROMANS 10:13-15 |

### EXPLANATION

While it is important to build great churches that attract many unbelievers to encounter God through our God-inspired and anointed service; the spirit of the Great Commission is about GO and TELL, not come and hear.

In our churches, there must be a deliberate and intentional effort to send missionaries to reach the nations.

First, we see that God does not discriminate or show favoritism to any people, or any race.

It is God’s desire that ALL who call on Him will be saved! But there is a condition . . .

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| • For people to be saved, they must first believe (9).  • For people to believe, they must first hear (10).  • For people to hear, someone must preach (11) to them.  • For people to preach, they must be sent (12) out. |

### EXPLANATION

The failure of the world to hear the gospel gets back to the failure of the church to send missionaries.

**Blessed to be a Blessing**

*1The LORD had said to Abram, “Leave your country, your people and your father’s household and go to the land I will show you. 2“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. 3I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.”*

This passage in Genesis 12 is the original Great Commission of God. We have been mandated to be a blessing to all peoples and nations on earth. But for that to happen, we must have a proper view of God’s blessing on our lives. Again, let us try to avoid both extremes. We don't want God’s blessings to be barely enough to meet only our needs, and we don’t want to have overflowing blessings just to meet only our needs either.

The healthy view is to know that we are blessed for a purpose, or blessed to be a blessing. We should pray that God’s blessings overflow in our lives so we in turn can become a channel of God’s blessings to many people and to many nations.

2 Corinthians 9:11 *You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.*

How then can I be involved in the Great Commission of discipling the nations?

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| How do we get involved?  1. Go (13) |

### EXPLANATION

These are for people who have a heart and a calling to go overseas whether short term or long term. Those with a heart to become long-term missionaries are encouraged to talk to their local church pastor to assess their calling and discern the timing. They will then be sent to the School of World Missions to prepare them for the nation they will go to serve. For those who have a heart for short-term missions, we have almost a hundred short-term mission trips per year offered through our Ten Days missions. The minimum requirement for those who go is you should be a Victory group leader.

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| 2. Give (14) |

### EXPLANATION

Beyond our tithes and offerings, Victory members are given the opportunity annually to commit to give a monthly pledge to support our missionaries and our world mission efforts to reach all nations. We classify our givers as frontline partners (P2001 and up) and Every Nation partners (from P200-2000).

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| 3. Pray (15) |

### EXPLANATION

Equally important to going and giving is praying for our missionaries and praying for the nations. This idea of holding the ropes is serious business, especially when the gospel is taken to resistant and hostile territories.

**The Promise**

Despite all obstacles and the challenges we face in reaching the nations, we are full of faith that one day we will see the nations come to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.

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| *“And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world*  *as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.”*  MATTTHEW 24:14 |

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| *After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands . . .*  REVELATION 7:9 |

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| *Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven saying, “The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign for ever and ever.”*  REVELATION 11:15 |

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| application (10 minutes)  1. Jesus should be at the center of all we say and do. At times, our Victory group meeting may not have Jesus as its center. How can we ensure that our Victory groups are Christ-centered, not leader-centered, need-centered, etc.? 2. What spiritual gift have you discovered in your life? Is the fruit of the Spirit evident in your life? How can the gifts and fruit of the Spirit be cultivated in your life? How can your gifts be used by God as you make disciples? 3. Share your personal initiatives (if any) on being socially responsible. How can you or your Victory group be part of our church’s initiative on social responsibility? 4. Is there a nation that God may be calling you to pray for, support, or go to? Share what the nation is and why you may have that burden. What are you doing about it? |

### CLASS PROCESSING (5 minutes)

### At this point, the teacher will ask two to three participants to share what they have discussed in the group discussions during application.

### break (10 minutes)

# Session 5 – CORE VALUES

### LOGISTICAL NEEDS

* video course by Pastor Jun Escosar (if there's no live teacher)

### lecture (25 minutes)

**Introduction**

You can hardly walk in any bank in the Philippines or in any jewelry store without being greeted by armed security guards. They are there for two reasons. To guard the treasure or the money, and to keep thieves from stealing the money.

Paul’s words to Timothy is *"By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit . . ."*

Like Timothy, every ministry has a good deposit that must be guarded. As we talk about the Every Nation core values today, we should look at them as good deposit that we must guard together. They must be guarded with the help of the Holy Spirit or they will be lost.

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| *Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.*  2 TIMOTHY 1:13 |

### EXPLANATION

**The Every Nation Core Values**

Our Every Nation core values define who we are as a movement of churches, They describe our ministry distinctive and address how we do what we do. They communicate what is important to us and influences our overall behavior. Every Nation has five core values that describe how we build: Lordship, Evangelism, Discipleship, Leadership Development and Family.

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| **Lordship**  1. The starting point for all our other core values is the Lordship (1) of Jesus Christ. |

### EXPLANATION

The starting point for all our other core values is the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

Because Jesus is “King of kings and Lord of lords,” we believe that obedience and whole-hearted submission to God’s will and His Word is the starting point of the Christian faith and the foundation of all spiritual growth.

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| 2. Lord means master (2). |

### EXPLANATION

Therefore, to say that Jesus is our Lord means that we will do what He says. Like any King, Jesus expects more than intellectual assent; He expects us to obey Him in everything we do. If Jesus is not Lord of all, He is not Lord at all.

Jesus is referred to as *Lord* 100 times in the book of Acts and 622 times in the whole New Testament, while being referred to as *Savior* only twice in Acts and twenty-four times in the New Testament.

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| 3. The Lord expects us to relate to Him as Lord (3) |

### EXPLANATION

While Jesus is certainly *Savior*, for that is what He does, the primary way He expects us to relate to Him is as *Lord*, for that is who He is. In all truth, we do not make Jesus Lord, He is Lord! When we reject the Lordship of Christ, we make up a Jesus who is less than the Jesus of Scripture. Lordship means there is a boss, and it’s not you. God is the boss. He makes the rules. He calls the shots. Our job is to simply listen and obey.

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| 4. Continue (4) to walk under His Lordship all throughout your Christian life. (Colossians 2:5) |

### EXPLANATION

If we want to receive Jesus, we must receive Him as Lord and Christ, because that is who He is. But it doesn’t end there. We must continue to walk in His Lordship all throughout our spiritual journey.

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| Why do people call Jesus “Lord, Lord” but do not do what He  says? (Luke 6:46)  1. Some are sincere, but ignorant (5). |

### EXPLANATION

Because of ignorance in God’s Word, there are gaps in our obedience (forgiveness, unequally yoked, baptism, purity, generosity, etc.)

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| 2. Some are sincere, but independent (6). |

### EXPLANATION

The person is not part of a discipleship group, or connected to a local church family.

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| 3. Some are sincere, but in bondage (7). |

### EXPLANATION

Some wanted to serve God but are bound by past or present sins. They fall into the same pattern of destructive habits. Sometimes freedom comes instantly, other times it requires the long tedious process of discipleship and renewing the mind.

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| 4. Some are not sincere (8) at all. |

### EXPLANATION

Some have no intention of obeying God. They are counterfeit converts, religious phonies.

But not everyone is. Some people need teaching, some need discipleship, and some need

deliverance. Put simply, they need to repent and surrender to His Lordship!

As Victory and Every Nation, we commit to remain faithful in preaching the message of repentance and a call to surrender to the Lordship of Christ.

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| **Evangelism**  1. Because God’s heart is to reach the lost, we seek to build churches primarily through evangelism (9).  *Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.*  LUKE 15:7 |

### EXPLANATION

Not transfer growth, through birth—not adoption. We are committed to this core value of evangelism because we value the gospel as well as the lost.

Jesus conveyed His heart for the lost by sharing to us three parables out of Luke 15.

1. Lost Sheep

A shepherd owned 100 sheep, but one was lost. So the shepherd leaves the ninety-nine and goes after the lost one until he finds it.

2. Lost Coin

A story about a woman who lost a coin. She searches the whole house until she finds it too. Both the woman and the shepherd are thrilled over finding what was lost.

Jesus said in Luke 15:7 *I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety–nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.*

3. Lost Son

A story is about a lost son who returns to his father. The father then throws a huge welcome-home party for his prodigal son.

Unlike the religious leaders of His day, Jesus was seeking and searching for lost souls. Biblical disciple-making begins with a search for the lost, not the gathering of the already found. The Ninety-Nine-and-the-One strategy is based on a universal principle that teaches us to have an outward rather than an inward focus.

If a significant percentage of our congregation does not begin to intentionally and strategically engage the culture and community in an on-going way, then the church will become increasingly inward-focus, consumer driven, and spectator oriented. The mission will be all about endlessly feeding or entertaining the ninety-nine while ignoring the one.

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| 2. The goal of engaging culture and community is to preach the gospel to the lost (10).   |  | | --- | | *19For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. 20To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though not being myself under the law) that I might win those under the law. 21To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law. 22To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. 23I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings.*  1 CORINTHIANS 9:19-23 | |

### EXPLANATION

• Paul’s Goal – to win as many as many lost people as possible (v.19)

• Paul’s Strategy ­– become all things to all men (v.22)

• Paul’s Motivation – for the sake of the gospel (v.23)

To ENGAGE means to build relationship with other people so that we can connect them to God. Engaging is bringing people closer to God to the point of putting their faith in Jesus as Savior and Lord of their lives.

If we engage people we don’t know yet, we can start by making acquaintance and having pleasant conversations with them.

If we already know them, we invite them to create opportunities where we can share our faith like small groups or church events. The key is to build trust and sincerely care for them, and convey that our intentions are good. Trust is constantly built through love, by displaying our faith and love by our actions to others.

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| **Discipleship**  1. Discipleship is all about relationships (11).  2. Discipleship is a call to follow (12) Jesus,  fellowship (13) with other believers, and  fish (14) for people. |

### EXPLANATION

Because we are called to make disciples, our primary focus is on ministering to people, not conducting meetings, administrating programs, or building buildings. We are committed to discipleship because we value spiritual progress.

Jesus put such a high value on discipleship, it is the only mechanism he put into effect to effectively reach the whole world.

Discipleship is all about relationships. It is a call to follow Jesus, fellowship with believers, and fish for the lost. At the very heart of discipleship is helping Christians to help others follow Jesus, fellowship with believers, and fish for the lost. In short, we don’t only make disciples, we make disciple-making disciples.

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| Four essentials of effective biblical discipleship (4 Es):  1. Engage (15) culture and community.  2. Establish (16) biblical foundations.  3. Equip (17) believers to minister.  4. Empower (18) disciples to make disciples. |

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| **Leadership Development** |

### EXPLANATION

Because we are called to raise up spiritual leaders, we prioritize leadership training and deliberately create opportunities for young potential leaders to develop their gifts.

As pointed out in Ephesians 4:11-12, the primary job of the pastor is to equip and empower multiple generation of leaders and then get out of the way so they can lead. If ministry is centered around a mega-leader, the others never get a chance to lead. Raising leaders takes time and a lot of patience and hard work.

There are four essential parts to develop an empowering leadership culture. We call our leadership development process: iLead. Here are the four pillars of leadership development.

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| **Leadership Development**  There are four pillars of leadership development in our iLead program.  1. Identification (19)  2. Instruction (20)  3. Impartation (21)  4. Internship (22) |

### EXPLANATION

The first phase is to identify potential leaders by helping them identify their calling, gifts, and opportunities.

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| 2. Instruction (20) |

### EXPLANATION

Instruction can be carried out in multiple mediums. It can be face-to-face, class instruction, conferences, podcast, distance or e-learning, even Skype (diskypleship), books, TV, radio or the internet. Instruction can even be self-directed (self-study). Whatever the medium, the goal of instruction is transformation, not just transference of information.

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| 3. Impartation (21) |

### EXPLANATION

While instruction can be done from a remote location, impartation seems to require close proximity. Disciple-making invades personal space.

Romans 1:11 *I long to see you so that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to make you strong.*

Impartation transfers spiritual gifts and makes us strong. When you surround yourself around people who are passionate for the lost, it won’t take very long for you to catch the same passion for reaching the lost. That’s impartation.

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| 4. Internship (22) |

### EXPLANATION

On the job training seemed to be the primary method of leadership development in the New Testament. The first three are all vital, but the greatest learning comes from actually doing ministry.

Internship has three parts.

• **Observation** means we watch while the leader leads.

• **Participation** means we lead with the leader.

• **Evaluation** means the leader watches us as we lead.

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| **Family**  1. Because the family is the foundation and validation (23) for all ministry, we refuse to  sacrifice our marriages and our children on the altars of temporal success.  *. . . for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he care for God’s church?*  1 TIMOTHY 3:5 |

### EXPLANATION

And, because we believe God has called us to be a spiritual family, we reject the idea of disposable relationships and choose to walk in lifelong love, respect, and unity.

Next to God, our family becomes the next priority, not ministry. This core value says that our spouse and kids are more important to us than the ministry.

How can we determine if a person is qualified to be a pastor? Too often it is based on education, oratory skills and administrative abilities. But the Bible says we should examine a man’s family. Not his family tree, but his relationship with his wife and children. If this area is in order, then he might qualify to lead a church. A spiritual leader’s home life will either validate or repudiate the message he preaches.

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| 2. Proper ministry priority can save (24) your family, not lose them.  *By faith Noah, being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen, in reverent fear constructed an ark for the saving of his household. By this he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.*  HEBREWS 11:7 |

### EXPLANATION

Noah’s response to God’s call to build the ark saved his family. God expected Noah to get on the ark along with his family, not leave them behind. Unfortunately, too many leaders today lose their family in the process of saving the world. One sad example is the life of Eli.

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| *12Now the sons of Eli were worthless men. They did not know the Lord. . . . 17Thus the sin of the young men was very great in the sight of the Lord, for the men treated the offering of the Lord with contempt.*  1 SAMUEL 2:12,17  *“And I declare to him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them.”*  1 SAMUEL 3:13 |

### EXPLANATION

Eli wasn’t judged because of the wickedness of his adult sons. He was judged because he knew about their sin and he did nothing about it. He stuck his head in the sand and went about doing ministry business as usual.

The leadership lesson here is obvious. If there’s a problem at home, admit it and do something about it. Get help if you need to. It's about priorities, not perfection.

Our family may not be perfect, but they are our top priority!

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| application (15 minutes)  1. Which of the core values resonates with you the most? Why? How is this evident in your life? 2. Which of the core values do you still need to think through and apply in your life? What is it about that value that you need to understand? |

### CLASS PROCESSING (10 minutes)

### At this point, the teacher will ask two to three people to share what they have discussed in the group discussions during application.

### BREAK (10 minutes)

# Session 6 – EVERY NATION CULTURE

### LOGISTICAL NEEDS

* video course by Pastor Jun Escosar

### lecture (25 minutes)

**Introduction**

Ministry culture is important for establishing what is considered normal and standard within the organization and influences all aspects of ministry life. Someone referred to culture as something we do without thinking.

This culture provides stability, identity, and a competitive advantage resulting to health, growth, and vitality in the movement. Process flourishes best in a healthy culture. Neither one is effective without the other. Many have attempted to copy a discipleship process, but without a discipleship culture, the process becomes like a muscle car with no fuel.

There are four ingredients to our unique culture: Vision, Generosity, Diversity, and Sacrifice. Let’s start with VISION.

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| **Vision**  *Where there is no vision, the people perish . . .*  PROVERBS 29:18 (KJV) |

### EXPLANATION

According to George Barna, vision is the insight God provides to instruct and direct our paths, a reflection of what God wants to accomplish through us in building his kingdom.

Because the Great Commission commands us to reach all nations, we can never be content just being a local church doing local ministry. Remember, Jesus died for the whole world. Our vision must not stop short of reaching every nation in our generation.

To help Abraham embrace a bigger vision, God used three word pictures to break him out of his limited mindset.

1. Dust

Genesis 13:16 *I will make your offspring like the dust of the earth, so that if anyone could count the dust, then your offspring could be counted.*

2. Stars

Genesis 15:5 *He took him outside and said, “Look up at the heavens and count the stars—if indeed you can count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.”*

3. Sand

Genesis 22:17 *I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore.*

God picked these three items because they were beyond Abraham’s ability to count—dust, stars, and sands. That’s thinking big!

To communicate the power of vision even in the midst of evil, violence, and injustice in the early days of Israel, God’s vision prevails.

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| **The Power of Vision**  *2And the Lord answered me: “Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so he may run who reads it. 3For still the vision awaits its appointed time; it hastens to the end—it will not lie. If it seems slow, wait for it; it will surely come; it will not delay.*  HABAKKUK 2:2,3 |

Here’s what we can learn about the power of vision from the prophet Habakkuk.

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| 1. Write the vision (1) |

### EXPLANATION

Vision must be written before it can be successfully passed on to others.

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| 2. Make it plain (2) |

### EXPLANATION

Make it as clear and understandable as possible.

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| 3. That he may run (3) who reads it |

### EXPLANATION

Vision is for runners, not simply for brochures and bulletin boards or web pages. The idea is that thousands all over the world will run with the Every Nation baton and pass it on to everyone who will receive it.

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| 4. The vision is yet for the appointed time (4) |

### EXPLANATION

The Every Nation vision and mission is bigger than Every Nation’s founders. It may not be accomplished in our lifetime, but it will happen at its appointed time. It will require all of us to make disciples and to equip and empower multiple generation of leaders all over the world.

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| 5. At the end it will speak (5), it will not lie |

### EXPLANATION

Vision is always future focused. It is not the current reality, but it is still true. It paints a vivid picture of where you would like the organization to be. Visionaries are preoccupied with the future, not stuck in the past.

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| 6. Though it tarries, wait (6) for it |

### EXPLANATION

The bigger the vision, the longer it takes. We need patience. We need to wait. Not a sit-around-doing-nothing kind of wait, but a hard-work-pray-harder kind of wait.

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| 7. It will surely come (7) |

### EXPLANATION

If the vision is from God, it will happen.

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| **Generosity** |

### EXPLANATION

In Victory and Every Nation, we are grateful to God for the culture and the spirit of generosity that is among the people. There are many stories in the Bible and certainly countless of contemporary examples how the Lord uses people to meet needs and be used by God as instruments to be a channel of His blessings to bring provision to accomplish his purpose!

We see in the Bible, that both the Tabernacle (Exodus 35:5-36:7) and the Temple of God

(1 Chronicles 29) were built from the generous, voluntary, and willing gifts of both the leaders and the people.

Looking at 1 Chronicles 29:1-9, we can learn four things to encourage people to be generous and become channels of his blessings.

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| 1. Our giving is not for man, but for the Lord (8).  *And David the King said to all the assembly, “Solomon my son, whom alone God has chosen, is young and inexperienced, and the work is great, for the palace will not be for man but for the Lord God.”*  1 CHRONICLES 29:1 |

### EXPLANATION

The primary motive of our giving is not for the glory of man or the ministry organization, but for the worship and the glory of God. And because this is the Lord's work, it deserves all our commitment and involvement.

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| 2. We give something that is very personal (9) to us.  *2So I have provided for the house of my God, so far as I was able, the gold for the things of gold, the silver for the things of silver, and the bronze for the things of bronze, the iron for the things of iron, and wood for the things of wood, besides great quantities of onyx and stones for setting, antimony, colored stones, all sorts of precious stones and marble. 3Moreover, in addition to all that I have provided for the holy house, I have a treasure of my own of gold and silver, and because of my devotion to the house of my God I give it to the house of my God . . .*  1 CHRONICLES 29:2,3 |

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| 3. Generosity means giving willingly, joyfully (10), responsibly, freely, and wholeheartedly.  *6Then the leaders of fathers’ houses made their freewill offerings, as did also the leaders of the tribes, the commanders of thousands and of hundreds, and the officers over the king’s work. . . . 9Then the people rejoiced because they had given willingly, for with a whole heart they had offered freely to the Lord. David the king also rejoiced greatly.*  1 CHRONICLES 29:6,9 |

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| 4. We generously give back what rightfully belongs to God (11).  *14“But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able thus to offer willingly? For all things come from you, and of your own have we given you. . . . 16O Lord our God, all this abundance that we have provided for building you a house for your holy name comes from your hand and is all your own.”*  1 CHRONICLES 29:14,16 |

### EXPLANATION

The greatest motivation in giving really comes from a grateful and worshipful heart.

All the people’s generosity and willingness to give is an acknowledgement that everything they own and everything they have comes from God.

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| **Diversity** |

### EXPLANATION

The mere fact that our ministry is called Every Nation means that we embrace diversity as a key component of our church culture. We always celebrate diversity, ethnicity, nations, cultures, and multi-generations.

Why do we intentionally and aggressively build multi-ethnic congregations? Here are two biblical reasons:

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| We intentionally and aggressively build multiethnic congregations.  1. Jesus died for everyone (12), not just for people like us.  *And they sang a new song, saying, “Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation . . .”*  REVELATION 5:9 |

### EXPLANATION

If Jesus died for every nation, every tribe, and every language, then shouldn’t our church reflect that diversity?

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| 2. Jesus called us to disciple (13) every nation, not just our own. |

### EXPLANATION

The Great Commission in a general sense means going to other nations by plane or by ship. Today because of urbanization, the nations are coming to our cities from around the world.

It is actually possible to go to the nations without leaving your city. While we still need to send a big chunk of missionaries for overseas and cross-cultural missions, many can now stay and reach the nations within our cities.

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| **The Truth about Ethnic Diversity** |

### EXPLANATION

It is sad that there are proponents against ethnic diversity. Even the New Testament is not exempt from ethnic segregation and division between Jews and Gentiles, between Jews and Samaritans.

The Apostle Paul always believed in ethnic diversity. Timothy, Paul’s young disciple has a Greek father and a Jewess mother. Titus, Paul’s companion was also Greek.

They started the church in Galatia that welcomed both Jews and Greeks. But after Paul and Titus left Galatia, the church forgot about its cultural value of diversity. Segregation started to creep in. Paul later wrote to the church to rebuked them and addressed the issue of ethnic segregation and division.

Paul saw ethnic division as a gospel issue. What happened is that when Peter the Jew visited the church, he had no problem eating with the Gentiles until the Jews arrived, then Peter only ate with the Jews. Paul immediately saw this as a gospel issue, not a cultural or dietary preference. Listen to what Paul said.

Galatians 2:5 *We did not give in to them (segregation) for a moment, so that the truth of the gospel might remain with you.*

Galatians 2:14 *When I saw that they were not acting in line with the truth of the gospel, I said to Peter in front of them all, “You are a Jew, yet you live like a Gentile and not like a Jew. How is it, then, that you force Gentiles to follow Jewish customs?*

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| 1. God does not show favoritism (14).  *And from those who seemed to be influential (what they were makes no difference to me; God shows no partiality)—those, I say, who seemed influential added nothing to me.*  GALATIANS 2:6 |

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| 2. The gospel should be preached to all ethnicities (15).  *7On the contrary, when they saw that I had been entrusted with the gospel to the uncircumcised, just as Peter had been entrusted with the gospel to the circumcised 8(for he who worked through Peter for his apostolic ministry to the circumcised worked also through me for mine to the Gentiles) . . .*  GALATIANS 2:7,8 |

### EXPLANATION

Why does a healthy church require diversity? When the church gets serious about diversity, good things happen. We need to realize that the color line was washed away by the blood of Jesus.

C.H. Mason, founder of Church of God in Christ said: The church is like the eye. It has a little black in it and a little white in it, and without both, we cannot see. How true is this analogy? Without racial diversity, the church cannot see. That explains a lot about the blindness in the church today. But with diversity, we can surely see clearly!

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| **Sacrifice**  1. As followers of Jesus, we can make a conscious choice every day to offer (16) our bodies as living sacrifices to God.  *I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.*  ROMANS 12:1 |

### EXPLANATION

As followers of Jesus, we can make a conscious choice every day to offer our bodies as living sacrifices to God. The Lord will not force it on us, but wants us to choose Him over our personal preferences and desires.

Sacrifice, persecution, and even suffering for Jesus are part of the Christian faith. As His disciples, this is the cost of following Jesus as our Lord and Savior.

Whether we go through good times or bad times, whether in lack or in abundance, we must be ready to make the necessary sacrifice for the sake of the kingdom of God and for the glory of the name of Jesus.

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| 2. As His disciples, there is a cost (17) in following Jesus as our Lord and Savior.  *And he said to all, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.”*  LUKE 9:23 |

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| *“Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.”*  LUKE 14:27 |

### EXPLANATION

For the early church, sacrifice and persecution were a regular part of their lives. A study of Acts will show accounts of sacrifice—arrests, beatings, threats, warning, prison, prison breaks, stoning, shipwreck, and more beatings. Yet through all the threats and persecution, the early church continued to boldly preach the gospel of Christ. Despite the religious and civil persecution, they continue to plant new churches.

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| **Lessons Learned from Suffering and Persecution of the Early Church:**   1. Persecution accelerates (18) the spread of the gospel. |

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| 1. Persecution prompted prayer for boldness (19). |

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| 1. Persecution resulted in rejoicing (20). |

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| 1. Persecution never stopped or hindered the mission (21) of the church. |

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| *Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name.*  ACTS 5:41 |

### EXPLANATION

It is indeed an honor and a privilege to share in the sufferings of Christ. When we realize the price Jesus had to pay for our redemption and reconciliation with the Father, I don’t think there will be any sacrifice greater than what our Lord Jesus went through to save us.

Giving up our wants, desires, and needs to further God’s kingdom and to glorify His Name is worth it all for the glory of the One who paid the ultimate price for my redemption. Glory to the name of Jesus!

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| application (15 minutes)  1. Which aspect of our culture resonates with you the most? Why? How is this evident in your life? 2. Which aspect of our culture do you still need to think through and apply in your life? What about it do you still need to understand? |

### CLASS PROCESSING (10 minutes)

### At this point, the teacher will ask two to three participants to share what they have discussed in the group discussion during the application.

### end of day 2 instructions (10 minutes)