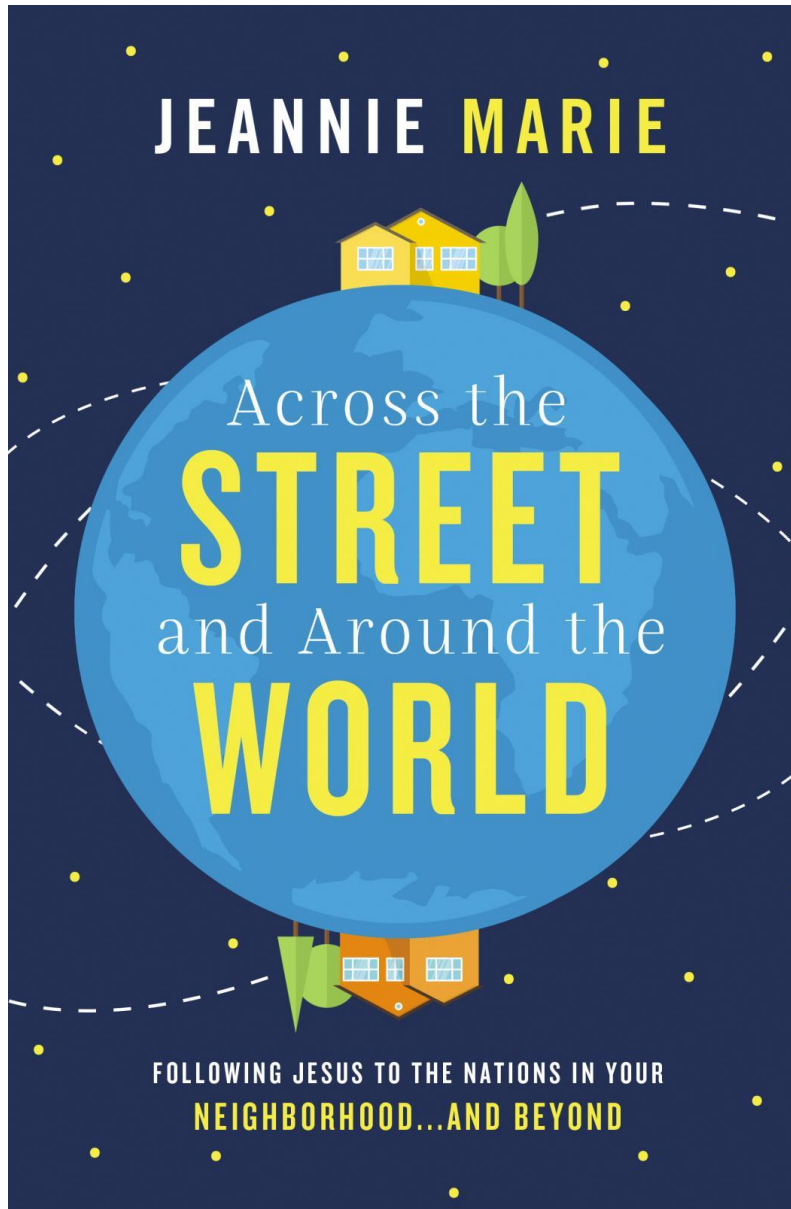




REAL LIFE GROUP GUIDE:
ACROSS THE STREET AND AROUND THE WORLD





Welcome!

Every believer can turn an ordinary life into a spiritual adventure by discovering how to cross cultures wherever you happen to be—with courage, confidence, compassion, and spiritual intentionality. Over the next few months, your small group will discover God's heart for people from other cultures. You'll consider your role in God's plan to draw all nations to himself by reading and *doing* the book, *Across the Street and Around the World: Following Jesus to the Nations in Your Neighborhood...and Beyond*.

The apostle John writes:

“And this is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.” John 15:8

I hope you have fun together as you pursue a common purpose. Be good news!

Jeannie Marie





Who is this group for?

This group is for believers who want to love other cultures right where they live but don't know how to start—or move forward into something more. It's for those who wish to experience most aspects of missional community at an introductory level with the same time commitment as the average church small group. It's for those who want to discover their role in seeing people from cultures with least access to Jesus Christ come to faith—both across the street and around the world.

What is this group about?

This is a creative small group experience reading, discussing, and doing the book *Across the Street and Around the World: Following Jesus to the Nations in Your Neighborhood...and Beyond*. The *Small Group Guide* is designed to introduce a group of believers to all aspects of a life focused on befriending people from cultures with least access to Jesus Christ in a fun, simple and interactive way. We'll practice hospitality and discuss cultural tips, explore how to offer Jesus winsomely, and wrestle with future calling and a surrender of the American Dream.

Sometimes small groups can be boring if we do the same thing, in the same way each week. So, this *Small Group Guide* gives you a step-by-step guide with different creative ideas and structures each week, if you like to follow a plan. But it's flexible too. Take what you like and adapt what doesn't work for your situation. Also, if you would prefer to do the book in less time, we suggest you combine Chapters 2 and 3 (*Weeks 2 and 3*); Chapters 6 and 7 (*weeks 7 and 8*); or Chapters 9 and 10 (*Weeks 10 and 11*).





The Plan

Week 1: Adopting God's Heart for the Nations

Establish a big picture vision and see the nations in the face of a friend.

Week 2: Entering Other Cultures Well

Lay down preferences and put on hospitality and honor.

Week 3: Engaging International Students and Welcoming Refugees

Understand how to serve international students and refugees well.

Week 4: Cultivating Intentional Disciples

Read the Bible and do life with your friends.

Week 5: Offering Jesus in a Winsome Way

Create bridges to Jesus Christ instead of building walls.

Week 6: Increasing Your Missional Intelligence (MQ)

Become intentional and strategic about what it's going to take to win.

Week 7: Planning and Participating in Effective Short-Term Trips

Learn about short-term trips that lead to long-term vision.

Week 8: Mobilizing Inspirationally, Giving Generously, Praying Passionately

Embrace "staying" roles as important to reaching the nations.

Week 9: Wrestling With Calling, Gifting and Personalities

Break down misconceptions about who could move overseas long-term.

Week 10: Dreaming About Earthly Professions and Overseas Impact *Discover what you could be and do in another country.*

Week 11: Surrendering the American Dream

Wrestle with the lure of wealth, financial security, comfort and safety.

Week 12: Getting Healthy and Hearing from God

Deal with identity, lies, inner healing, sin, unforgiveness—and listening for God's voice.





Group Values

Since you're getting a taste of some aspects of a cross-cultural lifestyle, you'll practice certain values in this group that are important to most Eastern cultures. Values such as hospitality, community, honor, group discovery, and prayer are unfamiliar practices for most Western lifestyles. So make sure to include them in your group time even if it doesn't feel as important as studying the Bible together.

Hospitality: Eating Together (Not during COVID)

Eating together is a powerful way to solidify friendship and brings relationships to a new level, even more so when done in someone's home. In Western cultures we might meet friends at a restaurant, but rarely do we invite another family over for dinner just because. What we miss out on, though, is the intimacy and depth of relationship that comes when we sit around the table in the places we call home, talking, laughing and taking our time. In Eastern cultures, nothing worth doing is done without being centered around food. In fact, serving others the best food available is a sign of great honor."

— Jeannie Marie, page 30, *Across the Street and Around the World*.

So you're going to eat together as a group each week! We've suggested creative ways to share a meal together as a group that won't feel overwhelming. You can try our suggestions or make something up on your own.

After this he (Jesus) went out and saw a tax collector named Levi, sitting at the tax booth. And he said to him, "Follow me." And leaving everything, he rose and followed him. And Levi made him a great feast in his house, and there was a large company of tax collectors and others reclining at table with them" (Matthew 3:27-28).

Community: Being Together

In general, Western cultures value and emphasize individuality, efficiency, task achievement, individual decision-making, and personal space. These often directly contrast with Eastern cultural values, which emphasize community, adaptability, flexible timing, relational achievement, and group decision-making."

— Jeannie Marie, page 22 in *Across the Street and Around the World*.

That's why you'll meet in a small group each week. We hope you'll text, call and do the suggested activity together with someone else in the group in between times. Groups may go





longer than normal too so try to be flexible and allow more time together than a traditional one-hour a week small group.

"For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. To 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. To 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. To 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. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings." (1 Corinthians 9:19-23).

Honor: Esteeming Each Other

In Eastern cultures, honor is more important than anything else. If people lose honor in public, they bring shame on themselves—and their families. Honor and shame drive Eastern society, from business to marriage to religion and everything in between. So everything you do—everything you are—*must* promote and protect the honor of the family. Practically, this looks like honoring everyone who is older than you by letting them go first, doing it their way, and asking their counsel. Try not to publicly correct anyone, which humiliates him or her in front of others.”

—Jeannie Marie, page 35 in *Across the Street and Around the World*.

So, in the group, ask the oldest person to go first, speak first, and give advice. Don't monopolize the speaking space, and instead hand it off by asking more questions of each other. Let the children eat last, not first. Ask about each other's extended families often.

Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 2:3-5).

Group Discovery: Seeing Together

Discovery-based learning groups allow everyone to hear from God through the Holy Spirit directly from the Bible, together. Leaders take the role of facilitator-teacher instead of lecturer-teacher, asking questions from the Bible passage (or book chapter). Together, the group comes up with ways to practice or obey something from the text and determine to share it with someone else. It's a healthy, communal way of pursuing character development, transformation, and Christlikeness.” — Jeannie Marie, page 73, *Across the Street and Around the World*.





In the Bible reading time, you'll notice the discovery element of reading it aloud twice and then trying to say it back as a group. This oral group memory strategy helps you stay in the passage to uncover all the gems the passage holds as a group. That's also why the questions from the book chapters generate discussion and ideas, so that everyone can learn from each other. Remember, the facilitator isn't the teacher!

"When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' They replied, 'Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But what about you?' he asked. 'Who do you say I am?'" Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.'" (Matthew 16:13-16).

Prayer: Listening to God Together

Hudson Taylor affirmed the absolute necessity of prayer as foundational for his fruitfulness in China. He wrote, "Brother, if you would enter that Province, you must go forward on your knees." In fact, all church-planting movements include a backdrop of abundant, excessive prayer. We can partner with the Hudson Taylors of our day by praying for their work, and by practicing ways to pray, even half a world away.

—Jeannie Marie, page 147, *Across the Street and Around the World*

How do we hear the voice of the Spirit, know that it is him, and obey it? With an open Bible, and an open heart, we spend time listening to the Holy Spirit instead of doing all the talking in prayer. Soren Kierkegaard once observed, "A man prayed, and at first he thought that prayer was talking. But he became more and more quiet until in the end he realized that prayer is listening."

—Jeannie Marie, page 226, *Across the Street and Around the World*

Each week includes different ways to try praying. As the group experiments and experiences new ways of communicating with God, prayer will grow into an exciting two-way experience with the God of the universe, who wants to foster a friendship with us. Make sure to follow the suggestions for times of silence, reflection and listening to God so that we can invite God's Spirit into our discussions.

"The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results" (James 5:16).

"My sheep listen to my voice. I know them and they follow me" (John 10:27).





Pre-work : Before the first meeting

1. Make sure everyone in your group has a copy of the book. They are available for free at the church office.
2. Invite group members to take the What Kind of Global Goer Are You? Quiz (www.jeannie-marie.com/quizzes).
3. Have group read in Across the Street and Around the World, Note from Author and Chapter One.
4. Have group read Genesis 12:1-3 and Revelations 7:9-10.
5. For those who wish to dig deeper into the Bible about God's heart for the nations, do the Embark study at www.embarkstudy.org.





Chapter One: Adopting God's Heart for the Nations

Establish a big picture vision and see the nations in the face of a friend

Discuss Chapter One of the Book

1. How do the desires of your heart—and the actions of your life—match God's desire for people from every nation to worship him? Do these same desires and actions apply to Muslims, Hindus or Buddhists for you?
2. Who resonates with the misconceptions of "It's not my thing" or "I'm not moving overseas anytime soon, so there's nothing I can do now" about reaching out to people from other countries and faiths? (pages 6-7)
3. Which ideas could you try to meet someone from another country? (pages 9-13)
4. What do you need to do to foster a deeper relationship with Jesus in your personal life so that your character, actions, and words reflect his? (pages 13-17)

Learn

Watch **Discovering God's Plan: Session One** of the *PathWays to Global Understanding video series* to dive deeper into God's heart for the nations. Watch the rest of this educational series on your own or with a future small group. *30 minutes*

Note: All videos can be found at jeannie-marie.com/videos arranged by chapter of the book.

Discover

1. Read Genesis 12:1-3 out loud, twice.
2. How does Abraham and his descendants being "blessed to be a blessing to the nations" translate for us today (v2)?





3. What passages in the Bible involving Abraham showed God's concern for the nations (from page 6 of *Across the Street and Around the World*)?
4. How is your home country positioned to be a blessing to the nations? What about your church?
5. Read Revelations 7:9-10 twice, out loud.
6. Try to retell the passage as a group several times without looking at the Bible.
7. What does this vision tell us about God's plan for the nations in heaven?
8. Take a minute to sit in silence, closing your eyes and imagining the scene. Ask God to show you some of the nations that will be present. Ask him to help you see some people you know from specific countries.
9. Is there anything you would like to share with the group?
10. In short sentence prayers, ask God for friends from other "tongues, tribes and nations" whom you might meet during this study.

For next week

- Get together with someone from the group and try one of the ideas from *Across the Street and Around the World* for meeting a new friend from another country (pages 9-13).
- In *Across the Street and Around the World*, read Chapter Two.
- Read 1 Corinthians 9:19-29.





Tips for finding a friend from another country

1. Only approach a person of your own gender.
2. Greet a Muslim with the standard Arabic greeting "A-salaam-alay cum" (Ah-salaam-ah-lay-coom) which means "Peace to you". Greet a Hindu with a friendly Hindi greeting "Namaste" (Nah-mahs-tay) which means, "Hello!". Practice saying both of these greetings aloud with the person next to you right now.
3. Ask your new friend, "Where is your family originally from?"





Chapter Two: Entering Other Cultures Well

Lay down preferences and put on hospitality and honor

Review

1. Does anyone have a good story of how they made a friend from another country last week?
2. Can someone try to remember Revelations 7:9-10 from last week without looking at your Bible?

Watch

Watch **Off-Road Adventure Episode Two** to catch a fun glimpse into Muslim culture (www.jeannie-marie.com/videos under Chapter Two: 10 minutes).

Discuss Chapter Two of the book

1. Think of people you know who grew up in an Eastern culture country, such as those from a majority Buddhist, Hindu, Muslim or formerly Communist population, or that you just watched on *Off-Road Adventures*. How are your concepts of things such as time, decision-making, hospitality, family involvement, and personal space different from theirs? What positive qualities do you notice in people from Eastern cultures?
2. Which of the four tips for entering a new cultural situation might be easiest for you to apply when you re with people from Eastern cultures? Which would be hardest? Why? (pages 23-26)
3. Which of the six habits of cultural practice would be easiest for you to try? Which would be hardest? Why? (pages 26-36)
4. How could you upgrade your personal interactions with people from Eastern cultures to honor them?





Discover

1. Read 1 Corinthians 9:19-29 out loud, twice.
2. Re-tell the story several times as a group until it's easy to remember together.
3. List all the things Paul did or did not do, to "become like" the people he served.
4. What does winning, discipline and running with purpose (vs24-27) have to do with finding common ground with everyone (v22b)?
5. What does all this tell us about ourselves as humanity in general?
6. Take a few minutes to sit in silence and ask God to show you in what areas of your life you need to give someone else preference. Ask him to remind you where you can be more intentional and disciplined "that by all means I might save some" (v22b).
7. Share your thoughts with the person next to you and pray for each other.
8. Is there anything you want to share with the whole group about what you might want to do differently next week?





For next week

- Do a *Try It* exercise in *Across the Street and Around the World*, blocking out your calendar to see how you spend your time (pages 29-30).
- In *Across the Street and Around the World*, read Chapter Three.
- Read Matthew 25:31-46.

Tips: Cultural tips when you re with your Eastern culture friends

1. Dress modestly, women wearing loose clothing covering arms, chest, and legs. Men should consider wearing long pants.
2. Stay clear of alcohol and pork if they are Muslim, and beef if they are Hindu.
3. Ask about how their family is doing before anything else.





Chapter Three: Engaging International Students and Welcoming Refugees

Understand how to serve international students and refugees well

Review

1. Who wants to share their calendar blocking exercise, what you discovered, and what you might do differently to make time for international friends?
2. Did anyone practice, share or try anything different from the discussion the week before?
3. Turn to the person next to you and try to say 1 Corinthians 9:19-29 together without looking at the Bible.

Discuss Chapter Three of the Book

1. How has your perception of international students changed? What are spiritual and strategic reasons to become friends with International Students, especially those from Eastern countries who have least access to Jesus Christ?
2. How has your perception of refugees changed? What is the difference between internally displaced persons and refugees?
3. What in the chapter especially surprised or created emotion in you?

Watch

Watch and do the simulation **What is a Refugee?: First Lesson** of what it feels like to be a refugee (www.jeannie-marie.com/videos under Chapter Three: 18 minutes).

Note: Remember, all videos are at jeannie-marie.com/videos arranged by book chapter.





Discover

1. Read Matthew 25:31-46 twice, out loud.
2. Can one person volunteer to start telling the story without looking at the Bible, with other people jumping in until it's finished? Check to see if you missed anything and try it again.
3. What does this tell us about God's plan for us now and later?
4. What surprised you that you didn't see before in this passage?
5. What are the five actions that Jesus said determines who inherits the Kingdom of God, and who is thrown into the Lake of Fire? What higher values to do those actions demonstrate about the way God intended for the world to be?
6. Take a few minutes to individually write down ways that you could start practicing the "welcome the foreigner" part of this passage (v35)?

For Next Week

- Browse some of the International Student and Refugee Resettlement faith-based agencies in *Across the Street and Around the World* and learn more about what's offered in your area (pages 241-242).
- In *Across the Street and Around the World*, read Chapter Four.
- Read 2 Timothy 2:2 and 3:15-17.





Tips for Welcoming Refugees and International Students

- Introduce your new friends to your network of relationships.
- If they are Muslim, pray for them in the moment with eyes open, hands out, palms up like you re receiving a present.
- If they are Hindu or Chinese, bow your head and fold your hands palms together, fingertips touching, at your chest.
- Invite them to your home for holidays and meals.





Chapter Four: Cultivating Intentional Cross-Cultural Disciples

Growing friendships into discipleship relationships

Review

- Did anyone tell the Matthew 25 story or do anything Matthew 25-like this week? How did it go?
- Did anyone find out about organizations in your area that welcome refugees or international students?

Discuss Chapter Four of the Book

1. What would keep you from asking a believing friend, a non-believing friend, or an international friend, "Will you read the Bible with me?" (page 63).
2. What do you find helpful in the tips for reading the Bible with cross-cultural friends (page 66-67)?
3. Which of the five principles of discipleship are new for you and how could you try them out with some of your friends? How would it look different if they were Muslim, Hindu or Buddhist? (pages 67-73).
4. With one cross-cultural friend in mind, complete the *Staying Spiritually Intentional* checklist (pages 68 and 69).





Watch

1. Watch **Inviting International Friends to an Investigative Study** from InterVarsity on how to ask someone to read the Bible with you (Chapter Four: 5 minutes). Note: Remember, all videos are at jeannie-marie.com/videos arranged by book chapter.
2. Are there ideas in the video that might help you overcome the barriers you discussed earlier, and try to ask someone to read the Bible with you? Does it make a difference if they are Muslim, Hindu, or Buddhist?
3. Turn to the person next to you and role-play how you might ask them, "Will you read the Bible with me?" Practice responding to a "no", "yes", or a "but" answer.

Discover

1. Read 2 Timothy 3:15-17 out loud twice.
2. Have several people try to repeat it out loud without looking at the Bible.
3. What are all the things in this passage that God says are true about scripture?
4. Take a minute to jot down specific times when you've seen scripture accomplish some of these things in your life.
5. In groups of three, share one thing you wrote down. Read 2 Timothy 2:2 aloud twice.
6. How many generations of discipling are evident in this passage? Discuss your own disciples.
7. In the big group, have each group of three share one discovery from their time together.





For Next Week

- Search for “Discovery Bible Study” online and choose a passage to follow the four questions in *Across the Street and Around the World* (page 64), on your own, or with one of your disciples.
- In *Across the Street and Around the World*, read Chapter Five.
- Read Mark 1:14-15 and Matthew 13:24-46.

Tips for Reading the Bible with Internationals

1. Treat the Bible with respect, keeping it off the floor.
2. Use a clean copy of the Bible with no writing in it.
3. Give them a copy of the Bible in their own language that uses words for God, Jesus and the prophets from their own language.
4. Remind your Muslims friend that the Qur an says to read the *Injil* (which means Bible in Arabic) and that God will protect His words so that they cannot be changed.





Chapter Five: Offering Jesus in a Winsome Way

Create bridges to Jesus Christ instead of building walls

Review

- Did anyone ask someone to read the Bible with you this week? What went well, what was hard, and what could you do differently next time?
- If not, what kept you from asking someone? Think of a believing friend you will ask first, just to practice.

Discuss Chapter Five of the Book

1. What concepts about offering Jesus in a winsome way in this chapter felt new and valuable for you to remember?
2. What cultural practices do you need to shed from your concept of Western Christianity in order to build bridges and offer Jesus Christ? (pages 78-80)
3. Take a few minutes to write down the names of the people from other cultures you know. Put a plus sign next to those you know are true followers of Jesus. Put an empty checkbox next to those you know are not true followers of Jesus. Put a question mark next to those whose spiritual condition you don't know.
4. For the + people, discuss how cultural identity meshes with his or her spiritual identity. Brainstorm something you learned from this chapter that might help that person share Jesus in a winsome way with his or her family of origin.
5. For the empty boxes, discuss ways these friends might feel lost and how Jesus could be good news in specific areas (pages 85-92).





6. For the ? people, this may show you haven't had enough spiritual conversations with them. Keep them in mind for the homework for this week!

Watch

1. Watch Honor and Shame Gospel from *Global Frontier Missions* on how our worldview shapes the way we share the Gospel (Chapter Five: 7 minutes).
2. Watch Gospel of the Kingdom by *The Bible Project* (Chapter Five: 5 minutes).
3. *How is the Gospel of the Kingdom different than what you have heard? How would you explain the Gospel using the language of the Kingdom of God?*

Note: All videos are at jeannie-marie.com/videos by book chapter.

Discover

1. Read Mark 1:14-15 twice out loud. Say the last sentence to each other out loud, like you're telling someone this for the first time.
2. Read Matthew 13:31-46 out loud.
3. Divide up into four groups, each group taking one of the parables to read aloud twice more.
4. Try telling it as a subgroup without looking at the Bible.





5. What does the story tell you about how the Kingdom of God works? What does this tell us about how humanity and God's economy clash? How could that parable be good news to someone? How does it fit with the Gospel of the Kingdom?
6. In the big group, have someone from each sub-group tell their story and then share an insight or two from studying the story.
7. Read the prayer in *Across the Street and Around the World* aloud (page 92).

For Next Week

- Try telling one of the Kingdom of God parables to someone this week.
- In *Across the Street and Around the World*, read *Chapter Six*.
- Read Revelation 5:1-10 and Matthew 24:14.

Tips for speaking of Jesus to People from Eastern Cultures

1. Establish yourself as a spiritual person who worships the one true God.
2. Let them know that you also pray, worship, fast, and give to the poor.
3. Don't argue. Instead, listen and try to center the conversation on Jesus.
4. Respect and do not dishonor or discredit their prophets, their Holy Books, and their traditions.
5. For Muslims, use Arabic words for God (Allah), Jesus the Messiah (Isa al Masih), the Bible (Injil).





Chapter Six: Increasing Your Missional Intelligence (MQ)

Become more intentional and strategic about what it s going to take

Review

- How did it go telling someone one of the parables of the Kingdom of God last week?
- Did anyone try to offer Jesus in a winsome way to any of the people on your +, blank, and ? list?

Watch

1. Watch Reaching the Unreached by Reality Church Santa Barbara (www.jeannie-marie.com/videos under Chapter Five: 4 minutes)
2. Watch Understanding the Remaining Missions Task (www.jeannie-marie.com/videos under Chapter Five: 7 minutes).
3. What surprised you? How do you feel after watching these clips?

Discuss Chapter Six of the Book

1. Read the prayer on page 102 out loud so you can adopt a posture of a learner.
2. Do you agree with the quote "Passion without knowledge is dangerous" (pg 99)? How would that apply when we re working in other cultures and faiths?
3. What statistics in this chapter grabbed your attention the most? Why?





4. What are “people groups” and why is that important to know? (pages 103-104)
5. What is the difference between unreached, unengaged, and frontier people groups? Why is it important to increase your missional intelligence (MQ)? (pages 104-105)
6. How do you feel when you read the quote, “For every one hundred people who decide to go to the nations long-term, seventy-three of them go to people groups that already have Christians and churches”?

Discover

1. Read Matthew 24:14 and Revelation 5:1-10 twice out loud.
2. What do these verses say about God’s plan for people from “every tongue, language, people, and nation”?
3. With crayons and paper, spend some time drawing a picture of what you are reading in Revelation 5:1-10.
4. Get into smaller groups of four and talk about the picture you drew.
5. Using Revelation 5:1-10, take turns praying using your picture or the verses as a basis for your prayer, thanking God that Jesus the Lamb is worthy to open the scroll, and asking God for more people to join the “ransomed people of God”.

For Next Week

- In *Across the Street and Around the World*, read *Chapter Seven*.
- Read Luke 10:1-11.





- Browse through the Reflection Resource list in *Across the Street and Around the World* on page 113 and try something on that list to increase your MQ.

Stats

1. 92% of frontier peoples (those with only 0.1% Christian) are either Muslim or Hindu.
2. 70% of the population of *frontier peoples* live in Pakistan, India and Bangladesh.
3. Over 1,000 Muslim people groups are unengaged. There are no known local Christians trying to reach them.





Chapter Seven: Participating in Short-Term Trips

Learn about short-term trips that lead to long-term vision

Review

- Did anyone try something to increase his or her Missional Intelligence (MQ)?

Watch

1. Watch *Before the Trip: Looking Ahead* by a young vlogger named *Gret Glycer*, to get a dose of reality (www.jeannie.marie.com/videos under Chapter Seven: 5 minutes).
2. Watch the *After the Trip: Reflection* by two brothers from *Twinsauce* who traveled on a short survey trip to Bangladesh (www.jeannie-marie.com/videos under Chapter Seven: 4 minutes).

Discuss Chapter Seven of the Book

1. What experiences do you—or friends you know—have with short-term trips? How do the descriptions of vision trips, professional trips, and survey trips compare? Has anyone been to a Hindu, Muslim or Buddhist country on a short-term trip?
2. Take a few minutes to think about your journey toward experiencing God's heart for the nations, pinpointing defining moments and times of spiritual transformation. What type of trip—as well as where and with whom—would facilitate or advance a long-term global vision?
3. What did you underline (or find important) in this chapter?





Discover

1. Read Luke 10:1-11 twice, out loud.
2. Try to re-tell the story as a group several times.
3. What are specific facts or observations in the story that you notice?
4. What does this passage tell us about Jesus' values and goals on his "trip"?
5. What does this passage tell us about how to enter and be in a new place?
6. What is this story telling us to do, this week?
7. Who could we share this story with? How could we naturally lead into the story?

For Next Week

- In *Across the Street and Around the World*, read *Chapter Eight*.
- Read Ephesians 6:10-20.

Tips for Short-Term Trips to Countries with Unreached People Groups

1. You will likely need a visa to get in.
2. Serving refugees in your own country can be a great "trip".





3. Team up with long-term workers working in these countries.

Chapter Eight: Mobilizing Inspirationally, Giving Generously, Praying Passionately

Embrace staying roles as important to reaching the nations

Watch

1. Watch a video on prayer from Joshua Project (www.jeannie-marie.com/videos under Chapter Eight: 3 minutes)

Discuss Chapter Eight of the Book

1. How has your soul come to life when you tried any of these important staying roles: mobilizing, giving, and praying?
2. When you think of mobilizing people to love and serve Muslims, Hindus, Buddhists or those from other unreached peoples, what has worked well for you? What might be difficult? How could you to move past the barriers? On page 139, read the prayer out loud.
3. When you think of giving generously, who do you financially support? Do you agree it s important to support especially those working with unreached people groups? What is hard about giving more and how could you overcome it? On page 143, read the prayer out loud.
4. When you think about praying passionately, what experiences do you have in prayer that energized you? What would keep you from praying more for unreached people groups, and what could be a solution? On page 150, read the prayer out loud.

Discover

1. Read Ephesians 6:10-20 out loud, twice.





2. Try to re-tell the story as a group several times. As you tell it, point to the places on yourself where you might wear the spiritual armor to help your memory.

3. What is true about the spiritual realm in this passage?

4. What is true about the earthly realm in this passage?

5. What active verbs are in the passage and what do you notice about them? What does it look like to *do* those verbs in every day life?

6. Play a worship song and just listen. Reflect on the passage, imagining putting on all the pieces of spiritual armor.

7. Spend time praying through the passage as a group, using the words as examples of how to pray, "Lord, help us to put on the sandals of peace..."

8. Do a time of communion together however you would like to set it up, making it a time of meaningful prayer.

For Next Week

- Try to spend a whole hour or more in worship and prayer for the nations using unreached people groups from websites on page 242 of *Across the Street and Around the World*.
- In *Across the Street and Around the World*, read *Chapter Nine*.
- Read Matthew 28:16-20.





Tips for Mobilizing People to Serve Unreached People Groups

1. You can't get someone to do something you're not already doing.
2. Help people make one cross-cultural friend, so that they have a familiar face that represents the big word "nations" or "Muslim", "Buddhist", or "Hindu".
3. Be intentional to raise prayer for unreached people groups.
4. Encourage giving to field workers living with unreached people groups and recruit others to contribute too.





Chapter Nine: Wrestling With Calling, Gifting and Personalities

Break down misconceptions about who could move overseas long-term

Review

1. How did you feel about praying for an hour?
2. Did anyone share Ephesians 6 with a friend?

Watch

1. Watch Luke's Journey about a young man discovering the conviction to move overseas (www.jeannie-marie.com/videos under Chapter Nine: 2 minutes)

Discuss Chapter Nine of the Book

1. How do you identify, or not, with an "apostolic yearning"?
2. What expectations have you placed on yourself (or someone you know) to possess the skills of a gifted cross-cultural worker? How can you release those expectations to God?
3. In what area are you most concerned about a lack of giftedness to live and work overseas? Write this on a big piece of white paper. Go around the circle and speak your fears out to God, ripping the paper in two and asking God for his strength.
4. What expectations do you have for God to supernaturally confirm a calling, even before you take a few steps in that direction? How can you take a few small steps of saying yes?





5. Do you agree or disagree with the assumption to choose *who*”, then *where*”, then “*who with*”, in that order? Why or why not?
6. Have someone read the prayer slowly on Page 161 and 162, while the rest of you close your eyes and open your hands, palms face up to God.
7. As you process your personality description: a Bleeding Heart, a Strategic Thinker, an Adventure Seeker, an Obedient Disciple, or a Meaning and Purpose person, how does this knowledge of differing motivations help you to be YOU?
8. As you read through the transformation of Jesus’ disciples, how does this relate to your own story?

Discover

1. Read Matthew 28:16-20 out loud twice.
2. Try to have someone re-tell the passage without looking at the Bible.
3. Why does this sentence begin with a “therefore”? How is the truth that God gave Jesus all authority significant for Jesus’ command to go?
4. Discuss all the verbs in Jesus’ command to go. What are they? Why are they important? Do any of them surprise you? If these are the goals, how would that change how we love and serve Muslims?
5. What promise does Jesus make before he goes up to heaven? How does this promise happen and how can we make sure we access that promise?





6. Take a few minutes to pray silently, asking God if there is anything he wants to say to you about obeying this last charge to go.

For Next Week

- Show someone else the quiz *What Kind of Global Goer Are You* and discuss some things with them that you learned this week (<http://www.jeannie-marie.com/quizzes>)
- In *Across the Street and Around the World*, read *Chapter Ten*.
- Read Isaiah 61:1-6.

Tips for Knowing if You re Supposed to Go Live in Another Culture

1. It can take a thousand small steps of yes to know if you re supposed to go.
2. Only three cross-cultural workers go to live with every million Muslims. Only five go to every million Hindu, and five to every million Buddhist. Maybe that s reason enough to consider it.





Chapter Ten: Dreaming About Overseas Professions and Earthly Impact

Discover what you could be and do in another country

Watch

1. Watch **Business in Bangladesh**, highlighting three kingdom businesses that bless the community, and how Christian professionals can use their skills, experiences and education in a global setting (www.jeannie-marie.com/videos under Chapter Nine: 10 minutes)

Discuss Chapter Ten of the Book

1. Do you agree or disagree with the idea that you can use your education, skills, and passions alongside intentional disciple-making in another culture? How is this different than what you understood global work to be like?
2. Which identity for full-time overseas work—an entrepreneur, professional, community development worker, student or religious worker—intrigues you or makes the most sense to you in another country, and why?
3. What obstacles would keep you from considering one of these identities for yourself? What could you do to overcome those obstacles?
4. Which of these would give you energy, joy, and do you feel drawn to do? Are there other skills, passions, or things that you are excellent at, and give you life, that might meet a need in a society of the world?
5. Which areas of global work spoke to your heart, mind, and soul: church planting, poverty alleviation, and social justice, or a combination? Why?





6. In groups of three, talk about how you might take a step toward doing something about embracing, or growing into, one of these identities?

Discover

1. Read Isaiah 61:1-6 twice aloud. Try to repeat it in phrases together as a group a few times until you can remember the list.
2. Say each of the ways that the anointed person blessed people. After you say one phrase, pray for God to bring to mind a person from another country or faith you know. When someone in the group thinks of someone, pray for them aloud and bless that person with this good news.
3. Which of these blessings are materially tangible and which ones are spiritual or emotional?
4. Get into groups of two. One person read the verses, replacing words like “the poor” and “you” in the verses with the name of the other person. You will be praying the verse for the person in front of you. Then switch and pray for the other person.
5. Take a few minutes and ask God who else would be encouraged to receive these beautiful blessings. Share the names with each other and commit to finding a time to pass on these blessings to that person.

For Next Week

- Do research online to see how your profession, education or passion could be used in another spiritually strategic country.





- In *Across the Street and Around the World*, read *Chapter Eleven*.
- Read Matthew 16:21-28.

Tips for Dreaming About Identity in Another Country

1. Practice ahead of time the “why are you here?” question in a way that shows you are a student, a businessperson, or a tourist for example, but also a spiritual person.
2. Be excellent at what you do.
3. Be who God made you to be.





Chapter Eleven: Surrendering the American Dream

Wrestle with the lure of wealth, financial security, comfort and safety

Discuss Chapter Eleven of the Book

1. Which parts of the American dream—wealth, financial security, comfort, and safety—did you grow up believing were important to pursue and achieve?
2. Which prayers of surrender seemed hardest for you to pray: surrendering wealth, financial security, comfort or safety? Why?
3. What helped you in the chapter when you think about surrendering any of these four dreams in order to work and live cross-culturally?

Watch

RADICAL: VIDEO SESSION ONE

Settle in to watch David Platt from *Radical* talk about surrendering the American Dream to live a radical life (www.jeannie-marie.com/videos under Chapter Eleven: 30 minutes).

Discover

1. Read Matthew 16:21-28 twice aloud.





2. What does Jesus say it looks like to be his follower?

3. What promises does Jesus give for those who surrender all?

4. Spend time praying through each of the four prayers of surrender in *Across the Street and Around the World* (wealth, page 199; financial security, page 202; comfort, page 204; safety, page 209). Choose one person to pray each prayer of surrender from the book for the group aloud, stopping after each question in the prayer to allow time to listen to God for a few seconds.

5. In groups of three, after each prayer, share a few things you sensed God saying to you and how you want to respond to him.

6. Did anyone have a major surrender moment you want to share with the group?

For Next Week

- Pray one of the surrender prayers in *Across the Street and Around the World* each day, journaling your responses. Ask God for breakthrough, and what you need to do to demonstrate and obey this surrender.

- In *Across the Street and Around the World*, read *Chapter Twelve*.

- Read John 10:1-16 and John 16:12-15.





Tips for Surrendering the American Dream in an Eastern Culture

1. Become inter-dependent on a local family for daily living. You will likely be folded into a community that vaccinates against the American Dream: communal sharing, generosity and hospitality, working hard but of necessity delaying pleasure and purchases, and protecting each other as a code of honor.
2. Some people in other cultures, especially those born into privilege, struggle with surrendering a “dream life” too. Help them identify and surrender the “idols” they hold dear, and it will bring them closer to God.

Chapter Twelve: Getting Healthy and Hearing From God

Deal with identity, lies, inner healing, sin, unforgiveness—and listening for God’s voice.

Review

1. Did you gain any insight or experiences with the surrender prayers you prayed daily?
2. Did you share an insight, scripture, prayer, or the recording link with someone else? How did they respond?

Discuss Chapter Twelve of the Book

1. Why do you think a book on reaching the nations ends with a chapter on inner issues and hearing the voice of God?
2. What did you find yourself underlining in the chapter that was meaningful to you? Go around the room and read the sentences and points you highlighted in the book.
3. Discuss each of the five steps to getting emotionally healthy, sharing any experience you have with it.





Watch

Watch the Listening Prayer Video Clip by Rusty Rustenbach, who wrote *A Guide for Listening and Inner Healing Prayer*, as he tells his story about how he first learned to hear God's voice (www.jeannie-marie.com/videos under Chapter Twelve: 6 minutes).

Discover

1. Read John 10:1-16 and John 16:12-15 twice, out loud.
2. What do the verses say about hearing God's voice? What do you observe in these passages?
3. What do these passages tell us about God, Jesus or the Holy Spirit?
4. What do they tell us about humanity, about people?
5. What difference might it make in your life to know the voice of the Shepherd, and let the Holy Spirit tell you whatever Jesus knows?
6. Practice listening prayer. Have one person pray the prayer from each of the five steps to getting healthy from the book for the group aloud (identity, page 215; truth about God, page 218; woundedness, page 220; sin, page 223; unforgiveness, page 225). Make sure to pause a few seconds after each question in the prayer to allow time to listen to God. *It might be helpful after each prayer time to ask people to share in two s any impressions or things they heard from God.*

Next Steps

1. Who wants to begin a discipleship group? Email disciple@hbcpcf.com
2. Who wants to facilitate another *Across the Street and Around the World* group like this with a different group of people?





3. Who is ready to regularly volunteer with an organization working with resettled refugees or international students nearby? Email Brenda Crawford bcrawford@hcbcpf.com.
4. Who is ready to start down the path to moving overseas to an unreached people group? Email Rachel Parkhurst rparkhurst@hcbcpf.com.
5. What next step will you take to move forward?
6. Close out in Prayer.

