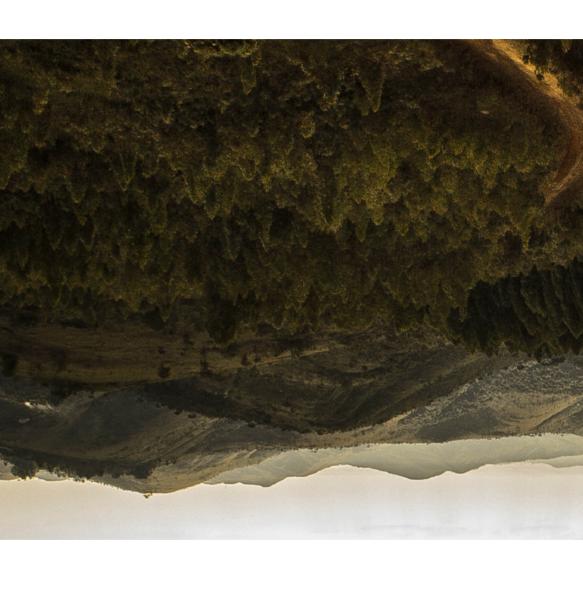
# TURN THE WORLD upside down

**EQUIPPERS** 





### HOST'S GUIDE

This study guide is here to help you lead a fun and transformative eGroup study over the next few weeks that will see each person progress and grow.

Use this guide, along with the DVDs and weekly Study Guides, for a life-changing, interactive experience.

#### **REFORE YOU MEET:**

- Ask God to prepare the hearts and minds of the people in your eGroup. Ask Him to show each of you how to apply what you learn to your own heart to see growth and to move forward.
- Preview the DVD and read through the study guide for that week. Think about what you might answer for each question. Make notes in your study guide if you want to.

#### **SETTING UP:**

- Take time before everyone arrives to prepare some snacks to share with everyone, set up the room you will use, check that there are enough seats, and try to create a relaxed and comfortable environment to meet in. You might want to play music quietly to create a relaxed atmosphere when everyone arrives, or move the furniture in your living room to make the space inviting.
- Have a Bible handy for verses that you might want to look up during discussion.

#### HOW TO HOST YOUR GATHERING AND USE YOUR STUDY GUIDE:

**ENGAGE:** Welcome each person as they arrive. Spend time chatting, getting to know one another, or just sharing about the week. Your relationships as a group are as important as the time you spend watching the DVD or in discussion. A relaxed and friendly environment is an easy place to learn and hear from God.

**RECAP:** After the first session you may wish to spend a bit of time each week recapping how your last seven days has been, inviting members to share any opportunities they had throughout the week to apply what they learned and how their individual activation went.



**WATCH:** After you have spent some time engaging with each other watch the DVD for the week.

**DISCUSS:** Read out each question in the study guide, allowing time for everyone to share their thoughts or experiences if they desire.

When a question arises, ask the group for their input, and resist the urge to answer it yourself straight away. Your primary role is to create an environment where people feel comfortable to be themselves and participate, not to provide all the answers to all of their questions. Don't be afraid of silence as participants think of their response to the questions.

Remember, the goal is not necessarily to 'get through' all of the questions. The main priority is for each person to learn and engage in dynamic discussion.

**PRAY:** Ask the group to pray for each other from week to week, especially about key issues that arise during your discussion time. This is how you begin to build authentic relationship, and encourage spiritual growth within the group.

**ACTIVATE:** As a group, read out and talk about the action in the study guide for that week. Decide together to commit to doing this action during the week to help you each grow and engage with God individually.



#### SUGGESTED TIME FRAMES FOR YOUR GATHERING:

ENGAGE: 15 minutes RECAP: 10 minutes WATCH: 10 minutes DISCUSS: 30 minutes PRAY: 5-10 minutes ACTIVATE: 5 minutes

(Please note that these are just suggested times, you may wish to take longer in certain areas. However, we do recommend keeping your gathering to a maximum

of one and a half hours in consideration of others' time)

#### KEYS TO A DYNAMIC EGROUP

**Relationships:**Meaningful, encouraging relationships are the foundation of a dynamic eGroup. Discussion and prayer are important elements of a gathering, but the depth of each part is often dependent upon the depth of the relationships between members.

**Availability:**Building a sense of community within your group requires members to prioritise their relationships with one another. This means being available to listen, care for one another, and meet each other's needs.

**Mutual Respect:** Mutual respect is shown when members value others' opinions (even when they disagree) and are careful to never belittle or embarrass others in the group (including their spouses, who may or may not be present).

**Openness:** A healthy group environment encourages sincerity and transparency. Members treat each other with grace in areas of weakness, allowing each other room to grow.

**Confidentiality:** To develop authenticity and a sense of safety within the group, each member must be able to trust that things discussed within the group will not be shared outside the group.



**Shared Responsibility:** Group members will share the responsibility of gatherings by using their God-given abilities to serve at each meeting. Some may greet, some may prepare food, some may pray, etc. Ideally, each person should be available to care for one another as needed.

**Sensitivity:** Dynamic eGroups are born when the leader consistently seeks and is responsive to the guidance of the Holy Spirit, following His leading throughout the meeting as opposed to sticking to the "agenda". This is especially important during the discussion and prayer time.

#### Fun!

Dynamic gatherings take the time to have fun! Create an atmosphere for fun, and be willing to laugh at yourself every now and then!

# THE KINGDOM OF GOD

ENGAGE: Spend time connecting with each other

WATCH: Watch Session One of the DVD

KEY THOUGHT: Jesus came to give us salvation, but left to release us into ministry

in his kingdom.

**DISCUSS:** 

"Your Kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven."

#### Matthew 6:9

The Kingdom of God is the central theme of the ministry of Christ. We often preach the message of Christ, but not the message he preached which was the kingdom of God.

Question 1: Have you ever noticed how often Jesus talked about the Kingdom of God? What did you already know about the Kingdom of God before today?

You enter the kingdom by being 'born again', when we accept Jesus our spirits come back to life in God. But salvation is just the first step, it is like the entrance to a magnificent castle. We don't just want to stay in the lobby our entire life, there's so much more to explore. Every believer has a purpose and destiny in the kingdom.

Question 2: What do you think you miss out on if you just stop at salvation? In contrast, what do you think it looks like to live expansively in the kingdom?

Jesus came with a mission, He came to restore men to God and restore God's purpose to men. He didn't come to build an earthly empire, he came to call sons and daughters into their destiny as God's children and as stewards of his Kingdom.

Question 3: Why do you think Jesus didn't want an earthly empire or to rule like other kings and queens have done in history?



God knows about every person who is born and has given them life. Before we were even conceived God gave us destiny. In the Kingdom we can find that destiny and purpose, salvation is just the first step on this wonderful journey. Question 4: Can you describe a time where you have begun to feel that God has a purpose or destiny for your life? What happened?

Jesus' mission was to restore the Kingdom; the Holy Spirit's mission is to expand the Kingdom. God wants His Kingdom to fill the earth, not just one part of it. We are purposed to multiply the blessings of God and then pass them on to others, to the next generation, leaving a legacy for others and expanding the Kingdom. Question 5: If the Kingdom of God really did fill the earth, what things would be different in the world around us?

Christ commissioned us to make disciples 'OF' nations, not 'IN' nations. To disciple an entire nation we need to shape culture within that nation, not to our own culture but the culture of the Kingdom of God.

Question 6: What are the things that could stop us from making disciples and bringing Kingdom culture in the world around us? (Consider what Dr Michael said about abusing things we don't know the purpose of).

**PRAY:** Break into pairs and pray for each other for a revelation of God's purpose and destiny in your life over the next four weeks.

**ACTIVATE:** Read 'The Lord's Prayer' in Matthew 6:5-15 in your own time, and reflect on why Jesus gave us this prayer to pray. Journal anything that stands out to you or you feel God highlights to you personally.

## OUR ROLE IN THE KINGDOM

ENGAGE: Spend time connecting with each other

RECAP: What were some things that stood out to you personally while reading

The Lord's Prayer this week?

WATCH: Watch session two of the DVD

KEY THOUGHT: The world doesn't operate as God intended and the church is

called to bring the kingdom of God to it.

**DISCUSS:** 

"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."

#### John 10:10

Ps Ed said at the beginning of this session, that the way things are in the world is not the way things are meant to be. As Christians, we have a role to play in seeing transformation take place in the world around us. God has given us the privilege of accomplishing his purposes on earth.

Question 1: List a few of the things you see in the world around you that are not operating in the way that you think God intended them to.

Many people cannot understand why God would allow the terrible things that happen in the world to happen. We need to see that "If it's not good, it's not God." He is not the author of bad things, but when we invite him into a situation he can turn things around for good.

Question 2: Have you ever spoken to someone who believed that God allowed bad things to happen? What would you say to them?



John 10:10 says that "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; [Christ] has come that they may have life, and have it to the full." Jesus' mission is now our mission, and we too have a part to play in bringing life and helping others to have life to the full.

Question 3: Who is the 'thief' trying to steal from, kill and destroy? Who was Jesus wanting to give life and life to the full to? Is this verse only about believers?

We are able to be the answer to the problems around us and we have a role to play. Dr Michael mentioned a scripture in Joel 2:28 and he states that this scripture reveals that the prophecies, dreams and visions that the Holy Spirit gives us are to help us to understand our purpose, what our role is in extending the Kingdom of God.

Question 4: Have you ever had a spiritual dream, vision, or received a prophetic word? If so, did it point to a way that you can bring the Kingdom of God into the world around you and help others?

In the past, the church has had the view that we do not need to be active in bringing the Kingdom of God into our world, because Jesus was about to return. This view is flawed, because Jesus wants to come back to a church that is glorious and fulfilling it's purpose of bringing the Kingdom to earth.

Question 5: If creation is waiting for the church to mature and arise, what do you think Christians need to do now?

**PRAY:** Pray for each other that you would find your purpose and power to bring God's kingdom to earth.

**ACTIVATE:** Think about areas where you can be a light and bring God's kingdom into the world. Ask God if there are any areas where you are living with less than the 'full' life talked about in John 10.

**MOUNTAINS PART 1:** 

# FAMILY, CHURCH & BUSINESS

ENGAGE: Spend time connecting with each other

RECAP: Did you think of any areas in your life where you can bring God's

kingdom?

**KEY THOUGHT:** There is a stronghold and grace on each mountain. Every Believer is called to have influence in one or more of the different mountains as they release grace, and bring the Kingdom of God into it.

WATCH: Watch session three of the DVD

**DISCUSS:** 

"From Christ, the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work."

#### Ephesians 4:16

The Kingdom of God is the functional transformation of real life places, beginning in our hearts. Dr. Michael says "Blessed people, bless people. Changed people, change people. Healed people, heal people." The more we let God change and do in us, the more He can do through us.

Question 1: What is something that God has done in your life, that he now uses to transform other people's lives?

The Seven Mountains of Society are Family, Church, Business, Government, Education, Arts and Media. All of us within the Church are sent to one or more of these Seven Mountains of Society as anointed people of influence and unstoppable authority. We are destined to bring change and the Kingdom of God into that place.

Question 2: Which of these seven mountains do you feel called to, or find uncommon favour in? In what ways are you or can you passionately bring the Kingdom of God into this place?



Family is where destiny is imparted. When the enemy attacks family, he is actually attacking destiny. Often looking back in family history can show you where you're going in your future, because the places where the enemy caused the most havoc and pain are the places where God wants to bring the greatest testimony and triumph.

Question 3: How have your past family experiences impacted or contributed to who you are today?

The Church is purposed to be the place where we are equipped and empowered to fulfill our destiny as world shakers and history makers. We are called into Church to learn the ways of God, but are then sent back out to display God's love and establish Kingdom Culture in the world.

Question 4: In what way has your time within Church equipped you or built you for ministry outside of a Church context?

People who are called to the mountain of business are to bring transformational change and Christlikeness to the company they're apart of. They've been given the responsibility to steward the business' resources boldly and diligently, generously using their influence and resources to meet the needs of their community and support the church as Christ would.

Question 5: How can people bring the kingdom of God in their business context?

**PRAY**: As a group, pray for those you know who are called to or currently contributing to the mountains of Family, Church, and Business.

**ACTIVATE:** Discuss something we learnt at Church this Sunday. How can we outwork this practically in our everyday context to influence and transform our mountain?

#### **MOUNTAINS PART 2:**

## GOVERNMENT, EDUCATION, ARTS & MEDIA

ENGAGE: Spend time connecting with each other

**RECAP:** How did you outwork something you learnt at church on Sunday at your

mountain this week?

**KEY THOUGHT:** There is a stronghold and grace on each mountain. Every Believer is called to have influence in one or more of the different mountains as they release grace, and bring the Kingdom of God into it.

WATCH: Watch session four of the DVD

DISCUSS:

"Those the Lord blesses will possess the land."

#### Psalms 37:22

Government is God's idea. God intends the Government to be a structure of authority that establishes safety, culture, community and opportunities for people. Governments are only as good as the people in them therefore the closer we come to the Bible, the better government will be.

Question 1: How can we as a church actively contribute to conquering the stronghold of corruption in government? Do we need to run for office, or are there other ways too?

Education shapes people's philosophy, beliefs and behaviour which ultimately affects their destiny. In Proverbs 22:6, God commands parents to intentionally train and educate their children in His way so that as they grow older they will not depart from it even when they're immersed in a secular society.

Question 2: Growing up, were your thoughts and beliefs shaped mostly by your family's input at home or outside influences such as school and the media?



The grace over the mountain of arts is glory, this means the greatest music, books, paintings, and dramas etc haven't even been made yet, there's more to come. Believers have access to a warehouse full of heavenly creativity, and unlock this glory as they follow their passion, release their purpose and activate their gifts.

Question 3: What are you gifted in or passionate about creating?

The heavenly purpose of media is to release power through communication. The stronghold over the mountain of media is fear, which creates chaos and disorder. Like with David and Goliath, when Godly people touch what the world has used for evil they redeem it.

Question 4: How can we as believers use social media as an everyday platform, to disarm fear and evil, and release the power and truth of God's love and Kingdom into the world?

At the end of this session Ps Ed emphasizes the obvious connection between all seven mountains. Believers at every mountain must intentionally work together to bring God's Kingdom to earth and see society influenced.

Question 5: Who is someone in your world from a different mountain, that you could partner with to increase the Kingdom's influence and impact in society?

**PRAY:** As a group, pray for those you know who are called to or currently contributing to the mountains of Government, Education, Arts and Media.

**ACTIVATE:** Post a testimony about something great that God has done through you in your mountain or a photo of your eGroup on social media using the hashtag #turntheworldupsidedown

# NOTES

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