

Discussion Starter: If you could participate in a church mission trip to anywhere in the world (if cost were not a factor), where would you go? Why?

## Prayer

### Discussion Questions:

What is the difference between missions and evangelism (*missions is simply evangelism practiced across some sort of cultural lines/borders*)? Do you think it is easier for most people to share the Gospel with someone across the street or to share their faith with someone somewhere else in the world? Why?

Describe the last time that you shared your faith with a non-Christian. Give a basic overview of the conversation and of how it concluded.

What are some of the most common reasons that you have heard for Christians not wanting to participate in evangelism? How do we answer these commonly mentioned excuses in light of **1 Corinthians 9:16**?

Read **2 Corinthians 5:18-21**. According to these verses, what role does God have for every believer (*ambassador*)? What is an ambassador – especially in light of the “ministry of reconciliation” that God is carrying out between Himself and the world?

Read **Acts 6:1-5**. Slow down and discuss the personal sacrifice that Timothy accepted in order to share the Gospel more effectively. What is the greatest sacrifice for the Gospel that you have ever personally watched someone make? Take a few moments of silent prayer to ask God to show you if you are willing to sacrifice your comfort and rights for the sake of sharing the Gospel or if you are only willing to do so when it is convenient for you.

What is a step you can implement this week to begin to guard yourself from lapsing into a routine of complacency and unconcern regarding people who have never personally trusted in Jesus Christ?

As Pastor Ramel mentioned on Sunday, we frequently see cults with a passion and priority for missions – but they get the message of the mission completely wrong. What are the basic components that a correct presentation of the Gospel should have (*human sin, Christ's death and resurrection, saved by grace alone through faith alone, etc.*)? Go over your group's list of essentials several times so that each member is comfortable with the basic flow of the core of the Gospel.

Take an extended block of time to pray for the spread of the Gospel. Have members of the group pray by name for non-Christians that they personally know. Also, pray for a specific region or people group somewhere else in the world where missions activities are currently happening (*for ideas, please visit [www.imb.org/main/aroundtheworld.asp](http://www.imb.org/main/aroundtheworld.asp)*). As Southern Baptists, we are currently seeking a new president of our International Mission Board, and we have just elected Kevin Ezell as the new president of the North American Mission Board. Pray for the leaders of our denomination's missions organizations.