

## STUDY GUIDE

### DUTCHTOWN BAPTIST CHURCH

LIFE ON MISSION

THREE CIRCLES

PHILIPPIANS 2:13; EPHESIANS 2:10; AND COLOSSIANS 2:6

01/29/2017

#### MAIN POINT

Living life on mission means engaging people with the gospel.

#### INTRODUCTION

As your group time begins, use this section to introduce the topic of discussion.

**Where do you spend most of your time?**

**How many hours a week do you spend there?**

**If different from your first answer, where are you most often around people who may need to hear the gospel?**

With specific places and people in mind, let's start putting all the pieces together for living our lives on mission. In this final session we'll discuss and practice Three Circles as a simple way to engage people in life-changing conversations about Christ.

#### UNDERSTANDING

Unpack the biblical text to discover what the Scripture says or means about a particular topic.

**WATCH SESSION 5 OF LIFE ON MISSION.**

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This session is a review of Three Circles. Ask everyone to form pairs and take turns explaining the Three Circles to their partners. Practice filling in the diagram and talking about the concepts as you would to a neighbor who had never heard these ideas before. After a few minutes, gather back together and discuss your experience. The Three Circles diagram available on the Life On Mission App which you can download for free on the Apple AppStore or Google Play.

**What has been helpful about learning and discussing Three Circles each week?**

**Has anybody recently had any gospel conversations? If so, how did your personal study of our group sessions help?**

**What can be learned from any successes you've experienced in sharing the gospel and living on mission?**

**What examples can we learn about what not to do in conversations about the gospel?**

**Once we've been brought back into a right relationship with God, how do we continually pursue God's design in all areas of our lives?**

Use the four I's: identify, invest, invite, and increase, to think together about how you can continue to live life on mission. Each of the four I's provides a crucial opportunity to think through what it means to live life on mission. Take some time to work through these questions today as a group and learn from one another.

**Identify: Who in your life needs the gospel?**

**Invest: How will you build those relationships?**

**Invite: Have you asked them about the relationship with Jesus? Have you invited them to make a decision about Jesus? Will you ask to meet with them or invite them to your group?**

**Increase: How can this group encourage you to live your life on mission?**

## APPLICATION

Help your group identify how the truths from the Scripture passage apply directly to their lives.

**Wrap up the session with any final questions and observations. What stuck out to you the most?**

**What is the value of letting someone share their own story with you when trying to engage others with the Three Circles?**

**Did you grow up in a culturally Christian environment or did you grow up in a place with more diversity or belief? How has that impacted your experience sharing the gospel and in even watching these videos?**

## PRAY

Pray that we would take serious the call to live life on mission. Pray for the people you will encounter and ask the Lord to allow them to repent and believe the gospel.

## COMMENTARY

### PHILIPPIANS 2:13

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2:12-13. Obedience is directed to God, not Paul, who hoped his potential death would not dampen Christian enthusiasm. Work out means to apply salvation, not to earn it. Fear and trembling means to have proper respect in response to God's blessing. True obedience comes from reverence, not fright. God... is working provides the deeper incentive: Christians are recipients of God's initiatives of motivation and empowerment.

### EPHESIANS 2:10

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2:10. Created in Christ Jesus for good works: The work of salvation is a display of divine handiwork. Good works are the fruit of our salvation, not the cause of it. Also, good works are not incidental to God's plan; they are instead an essential part of His redemption plan for each believer. Good works are demonstrated in gratitude, character, and actions.

## **COLOSSIANS 2:6**

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Paul's primary concern was that believers would grow in spiritual maturity. The basis of their conduct is Christ's lordship (1:15-20) and indwelling (1:27). The command to walk in Him, as in 1:10, is followed by expressions of what this involved: (1) being rooted (denoting firmness; cp. Eph 3:17); (2) built up; (3) established in the faith (a legal term meaning "confirmed"); and (4) overflowing with gratitude (cp. 1:3,12; 3:15-17; 4:2).