

Growth Group Leader Guide

This “growth group leader guide” is meant to be just that, a guide. Please feel free as the leader of your group to add questions or comments, as you feel necessary to fit your group’s dynamics.

Also, don’t feel pressured to cover every question.

- What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend’s message did you find to be most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain.

Spend the majority of your time in prayer-

Pray through Psalm 67 as a group

- ***Leader’s Cheat:*** *If you have never prayed through scripture as a group, this is a great opportunity to start. Psalm 67 is an easy Psalm to pray. Here is my suggestion on how to do this... Read ONE verse at a time and open it up for anyone to pray anything that relates to that verse. When a prayer is done, read another verse and silently wait until someone else prays. And again, they can pray anything they want as it relates to that verse. Keep doing this until you are done with the Psalm.*

Take time to pray for a potential Cross-Cultural Worker and their family:

- **Jonathan and Leisl Van Eenwyck and their 2 boys**
 - Pray for their family as they come and visit our church this weekend
 - Pray for God’s wisdom in our decision to partner with them in the future

Take time to pray for our 3 main Cross-Cultural Workers

- **Chris & Kelly Lillpop – Poland**
 - Their prayer request
 - Continued community and spiritual growth for new believers.
 - Wisdom & confidence for Chris as he leads.
 - For young leaders’ hearts to be encouraged.
 - They would continually seek to understand and serve one another in their marriage.
 - God’s provision for a new ministry van in the next few months.

- Praise – God has already provided a portion of this money.
- **A & H – Middle East**
 - Their prayer request
 - They need wisdom as people close to them (mostly refugees) are asking them for money.
 - Pray for all the refugees that they are ministering to. Especially the women H has been ministering to.
 - Pray for one refugee in particular - a single mom of 6 who is continually in need.
 - Pray for H as she is pregnant with her second (due in December).
 - Prayer for A as he teaches pastors the O.T. from all over the Arab world.
- **J & E – South East Asia**
 - Their prayer request
 - Pray for their parenting
 - Wisdom for doing Cross-Cultural work together as a family.
 - Lift of the “C” people
 - The “C” people are the unreached people group they are trying to reach (it is dangerous to name them on a prayer request.)
 - J has been reading the Bible with a couple of “C” people.
 - Prayer for an upcoming move to a city they are calling “Jericho” which is a city that is closer to the “C” people. They are having trouble getting a visa to move.
 - “Jericho” is a code name because again it is dangerous to name the city.

Read the 5 questions about Cross-Cultural work and discuss the answers as a group.

1) What is our definition of Missions at COBC?

- **Evangelism** – sharing the Gospel with anyone anywhere.
- **Missions** - doing the work of an evangelist but in a different culture.
 - Usually involves learning a language (many times 2 languages) and learning a culture for the sake of the Gospel. Missions usually happens in a culture that has no church in which people are doing

evangelism, therefore they have no access to the Gospel unless we (Christians from a different culture) go.

- **Missionaries** – people who cross a cultural boundary for the sake of the Gospel and planting churches, to reach unreached people groups... (UPG's)
- Why might it be helpful to separate the terms “Evangelism” and “Missions” as two different things?

2) Why do we call our missionaries – **Cross-Cultural Workers**?

- **2 reasons** –
 - **First** – Because so many pastors have preached that “we are all missionaries.” Using the term “*Cross-Cultural Workers*” brings clarity to what we are saying as a church.
 - **Men & Women** – crossing a cultural boundary to share the Gospel.
 - **Second** – the words “**missions & missionary**” are dangerous words for most missionaries.

3) What is our priority – for Cross-Cultural Work & Workers (missions)?

- Reaching the Unreached People Groups of the world.

4) What is considered an Unreached People Group (UPG)?

- A people group that is...
 - Less than 2% evangelical
 - Less than 5% claiming Christ.

5) What is the difference between a **Sending Church** Vs. **Supporting Church**?

- “**Supporting**” a missionary
 - We give money & encouragement
- “**Sending**” a missionary means we are sending someone we consider part of our church.
 - We are committing to be responsible to for that missionary.

5) How can I personally be a good sender?

- Discuss as a group how you can be more involved in COBC's Cross-Cultural Work