

Journey CHURCH

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Life on Mission – Leader Guide Session One: Overview

*****WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A WITNESS? THAT'S WHAT THIS FIRST SESSION IS ABOUT.**

MEMORY VERSE: “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. (Acts 1:8)

What does it mean to be a witness? In a courtroom, witnesses are called to tell their stories – to testify about what they have seen or experienced. Why? Just because they have interesting stories? No. It's because their stories impact others, and have the potential to change the destiny of many. Jesus calls us as His followers to be witnesses - to tell our stories. We don't have to be experts in theology or know all the answers about the Bible. We do have to be willing to tell people why we believe, and how we have been changed by the hope that is in us. Really, that's what it means to live life on mission. To see opportunities right in front of us: opportunities to tell our stories in a way that will change someone's destiny. Welcome to this first session of Life on Mission.

Discussion Questions

- 1) What comments from the DVD teaching impacted you the most?
- 2) Think about your life. Where has God given you influence? Maybe in your school, neighborhood, or workplace? In other words, where are you already connected with other people?
- 3) How often do you spend time with people who aren't Christians? When you find yourself in social situations with people who don't know Jesus, do you feel: a) comfortable and friendly; b) somewhat uncomfortable; c) anxious; or d) I am rarely in social situations with non-Christians.

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4) Think about people you know who don't follow Jesus. How would you describe them? When you think about building a friendship with them, what's your gut reaction?

5) Let's talk for a few minutes about the two "greats" in the New Testament. The Great Commission is found in Matthew 28:19-20. "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." The Great Commandment is found in Mark 12:29-30. "The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."

How do these two "greats" encompass what Cal Jernigen called "the main thing" for Christians?

6) Lee Strobel shared Jesus' metaphors about being salt and light, and said that Jesus was telling us, "to live lives that are salty, that make people thirst for God." How can the way you live your life make people thirst for God?

7) Read Ephesians 2:8-10. God has planned some things for you to do. What do you think they are?