



Is this study guide for you?

If you're a follower of Jesus, you don't have to start a missionary movement. You're already in one. This study guide is about helping you to understand what this means and how to participate in what God is already doing.

Each study follows the main themes of *Movements that Change the World*. It would be helpful to read the relevant chapter of the book before each study. However, the focus of the lessons will not be on the content of the book but how the principles in the book are revealed in the ministry of Jesus and the early church.

We've pitched these group studies at people who are ready to discover what it means to participate in a movement that is changing the world, one life at a time. If you're passionate about making disciples this series of studies is for you.

You'll learn best if you gather with a small group of others to support and hold each other accountable as you implement.

The studies can be completed over consecutive weeks or over consecutive months. What matters is that between lessons you are making a serious attempt to obey what you have learned.



Study guide design and artwork by peterbergmeier.com

Before you begin

What is required

This is a series of studies for people who want to follow Jesus and change the world. You'll need to do roughly upto 2 hours work between each session. The studies are obedience oriented. You'll be expected to put what you're learning into practice. That means following Jesus and letting him teach you how to make disciples.

There are three assignments you must complete *before* you can attend the first session.

1. Read through the whole of Luke-Acts and journal your observations and thoughts about the missionary movement that Jesus started.

2. Recruit a partner. Pray together and ask God to lead you to an area or a group in your region. As you sense him guide you, go and walk around the area or amongst the people praying for them. Be open to the Holy Spirit leading you as you go.

Before you head out you may want to listen to the interviews with Tim Scheuer and Jeff Sundell on the movements.net podcast. You can also search for them on the movements.net website.

3. Read the first two chapter of *Movements that Change the World*, pages 15-34.

Make sure everyone who attends the first session has completed these three assignments.

Movements that change the world.

By Steve Addison.

Jesus founded a missionary movement that now spans the globe. As his followers we are called to continue his mission in the power of the Holy Spirit.

From biblical, historical, and contemporary case studies, Steve Addison identifies the five recurring characteristics of dynamic missionary movements: white-hot faith, commitment to a cause, contagious relationships, rapid mobilization and adaptive methods.

This is a book for anyone who wants to follow Jesus and change the world.

To find out how to obtain a copy of *Movements that Change the World* by Steve Addison visit www.movements.net



Steve Addison serves as Australian director of Church Resource Ministries. His calling is to spark church planting movements - everywhere.



Study 1

- Why movements matter

1.1 As you begin...

Share how you went prayer walking in an area or among a people group in your region.

Why did you decide to participate in these studies?

What do you hope will be different as a result of your involvement?

Pray together.

1.2 Chapter review: Why movements matter

What insights did you gain from reading the sections on Patrick and Why Movements Matter?

1.3 Movements that shaped our world

Movements are people committed to a common cause. They can be religious, political and social. They can be radical or conservative. Their common characteristic is they aim to change the world.

Here is a list of some movements that have shaped the world we live in:

Pentecostalism

Communism

Environmentalism

Radical Islam

Wikipedia

Can you think of a movement (other than Christianity) that has intersected with your life in some way. Share your experience with the group.

What are some of the characteristics of movements that change the world—for good or evil?



*A movement is like . . .
a river. It is constantly
changing in response to
new challenges yet it has
one purpose—to get to
the ocean.*

When you think of movements what image or metaphor comes to mind?

A movement is like. . .

Write up the group's responses on a flip chart or large piece of paper.

As you look at the various metaphors what do you think is hindering today's followers of Jesus from being a movement like the metaphors represent?

1.4 The movement Jesus founded

Jesus founded a missionary movement that now spans the globe. The Gospels tell the story of what Jesus began to do and teach. Acts is about what Jesus continued to do through his people empowered by the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:1).

The church Jesus founded was a missionary church. Its existence and activities were an expression of its missionary calling. Its members were fearlessly determined to win others to faith in Jesus as the crucified and risen Messiah. Their mission field began at home in Jerusalem and Judea, and it extended to the ends of the earth. The goal and purpose of their missionary work was the making of disciples and the creation of communities of disciples. Disciples were people who turned from their old way of life, put their trust in Jesus, and obeyed his teaching.

Movements that Change the World, 29.

From your knowledge of the Gospels and Acts, what do you think it means for followers of Jesus to be a missionary movement?

When have you experienced being part of this missionary movement?

How does your experience compare to the example of Jesus and the disciples in the Gospels and Acts?

“Missionaries establish contact with non-Christians, they proclaim the news of Jesus the Messiah and Savior (proclamation, preaching, teaching, instruction), they lead people to faith in Jesus Christ (conversion, baptism), and they integrate the new believers into the local community of the followers of Jesus (Lord’s Supper, transformation of social and moral behavior, charity).”

Eckhard Schnabel in Movements that Change the World, 31.

How does this description of a missionary movement line up with what you see in Acts?

Activities	Examples in Acts
1. Establish contact with non Christians.	
2. Proclaim the news of Jesus as Messiah and Savior.	
3. Lead people to faith in Jesus.	
4. Equip disciples to form new churches.	

1.5 Wrap up

How have you been challenged by this study?

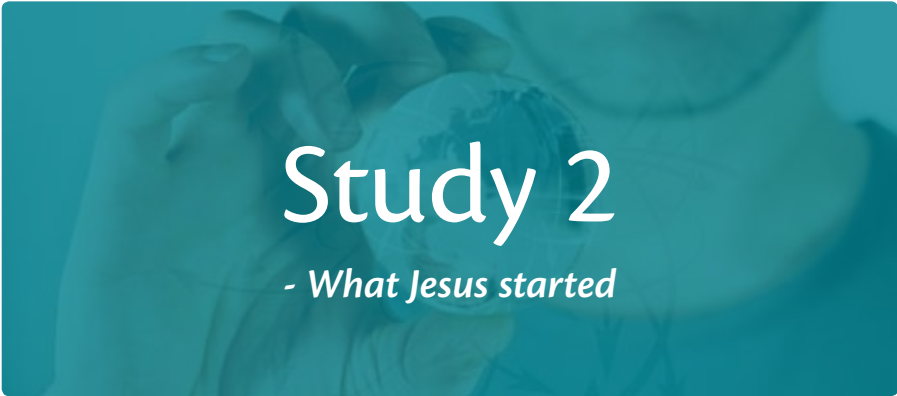
What action do you need to take before the next session to respond to this challenge? (We'll ask you next time to talk about how it went).

Pray for each other.

1.6 Before the next session . . .

Luke wrote his Gospel and Acts as two parts of the one story. Before your next meeting revisit Luke-Acts and the journal you wrote. Work through each of the questions in the table below.

What to look for	What you found in Luke-Acts
What is the message that Jesus and his followers proclaimed?	
How is that message proclaimed?	
What methods and strategies were employed to spread the gospel and make disciples?	
How are workers selected, developed and mobilized?	
In what ways is the Holy Spirit at work in the ministry of Jesus and the church in Acts?	
How are new churches formed?	
How does the gospel spread into new regions and people groups?	
What are the barriers to the spread of the gospel and how are they overcome?	



Study 2

- *What Jesus started*

2.1 As you begin . . .

Take a few minutes to share what you have done in response to the challenge of the last session?

2.2 A fresh look at Luke-Acts

What was going on inside of you as you read Luke-Acts and the story of the expansion of the movement Jesus started?

What stirred you the most? Why?

What were the common themes that emerged through the group sharing?

Place yourself in the story of Luke-Acts, which character (other than Jesus) do you most identify with? Why?

Share your insights on Luke-Acts from section 1.6

On a flip chart or large sheet of paper, brainstorm some words that describe the movement that Jesus founded.

2.3 A fresh look at your experience

Fill out the table below on your current experience of church and ministry.

What to look for	Your current experience
What is the message we proclaim?	
How is that message proclaimed?	
What methods and strategies are employed to spread the gospel and make disciples?	
How are workers selected, developed and mobilized?	
In what ways is the Holy Spirit at work in our ministry?	
How are new churches formed?	
How does the gospel spread into new regions and people groups?	
What are the barriers to the spread of the gospel and how are they overcome?	

Compare the movement that Jesus founded (see 1.6) with your current experience of church and ministry (see 2.3).

What stands out to you?

What would it take to bridge the gap between your current experience and what you've seen in Luke-Acts?

How will you begin?



2.4 Wrap up

What has challenged you from this study?

What will you do between now and the next meeting in response?

Pray for each other.

2.5 Before the next session. . . .

Continue to prayer walk your area or people group. Take a partner with you. Be open to what God is saying and doing as you go.

Read the chapter on White-hot faith.

Study 3

- White-hot faith

3.1 As you begin . . .

Take a few minutes to share how you have put into practice what you are learning about Movements.

How did your prayer walk go?

3.2 Chapter review: White hot faith

Note the three best insights you gained from reading this week's chapter.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

3.3 Your story

In groups of two or three share about a time when you surrendered to God.

With the whole group talk about the lessons you learned from your experience of surrender.

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

3.4 Paul's conversion and call (Acts 26:9-18).



*The Conversion of Saint Paul
by Michelangelo Merisi da
Caravaggio (1600-1601).*

Look at the image of Paul on the Damascus road. What is going on?

What is Paul surrendering to?

Imagine it is you, not Paul, who has just fallen to the ground. How do you feel?

The Conversion on the Way to Damascus is a masterpiece by Caravaggio, painted in 1601.

Notice how Paul has been violently unseated from his horse. He has lost his position of power and mobility. His sword lies useless on the ground. Blinded, his arms are outstretched pleading for help. His companion, unable to come to his aid, restrains Paul's horse from trampling him underfoot. Paul is powerless, defeated and lost.

At this moment he is neither Saul or Paul. This man has no name. He has lost everything. His life is laid bare. He is powerless to save himself.

He will arise to be led, helpless, into Damascus. After three days of blindness he will emerge as Paul the leader of a missionary movement. But at this moment he does not know this. He does not know who he is.

The great movements of the Christian faith are not human inventions. They are unleashed through the presence and power of God. Jesus brought his followers into the same wholehearted relationship he had with the Father and the Holy Spirit. He sent them to the ends of the earth with nothing but their dependence on the truth of the gospel the reality of his power.

3.5 Three examples to follow

Jesus

In a surprising statement Hebrews 5:8 tells us that, although Jesus was a son, he learned obedience from what he suffered.

Jesus was the surrendered and obedient Son of the Father. The secret of his ministry was his relationship with the Father and his dependence on the power of the Holy Spirit.

vss	How did Jesus come to the place of surrender?	How did Jesus teach his followers to surrender?
Luke 3:21-22		
Luke 4:1-15		

Peter

Peter was the outspoken disciple however he never suspected how low his life would get. A few hours after he declared that he would die for Jesus he denied even knowing Jesus, three times. Later Jesus restored Peter. When the Holy Spirit came on the day of Pentecost, Peter spoke with passion and authority and launched the church as a missionary movement.

vss	How did Peter come to the place of surrender?	What was the fruit of Peter's surrender?
John 13:31-38		
John 18:15-27		
John 21:15-19		
Acts 2:1-42		

Paul

Paul had to learn that his achievements were nothing compared to the power of knowing Christ. His troubles taught him that the gospel's power comes from God alone.

vss	How did Paul come to the place of surrender?	What was the fruit of Paul's surrender?
Acts 26:9-18		
2 Cor 3:4-6		
2 Cor 12:8-10		

What have you learned about the way God captures our hearts and empowers us for ministry?

3.6 Wrap up

What is God saying to you about following Jesus in surrendering to his love and opening your life to the power of the Holy Spirit?

How will you continue to cultivate a life surrendered to God?

What will you do in response to God's call to surrender?

As you share together make sure you pray for each other.

3.7 Before next session...

Read the chapter on Commitment to a Cause.

Continue your prayer walking.

Spend some time alone with God reflecting on the passages below.

Reflection exercise

Sit quietly in God's presence.

Ask God to bring you to a deeper place of surrender to his love, his will and his power.

1. Read

Choose a passage from the list below. Read it through a number of times.

2. Dwell

Place yourself in the passage. For example, imagine you are one of Paul's companions on the Damascus Road, or Peter at Pentecost, or Paul wrestling with God about his "weakness", or Jesus alone in the wilderness.

3. Listen

As you dwell on the passage listen for what God is saying to you.

4. Pray

Let prayer well up within you in response to whatever has moved you. Talk with Jesus about what happened for you in this time—as friend to friend.

5. Write

Journal your insights and write out a prayer of response to God in the spaces provided below. Repeat this exercise with the same passage if it is helpful or move on to other passages on the list.

Jesus	Reflections on your time of prayer	Your prayer of response to God
Luke 3:21-22		
Luke 4:1-15		

Peter	Reflections on your time of prayer	Your prayer of response to God
John 13:31-38		
John 18:15-27		
John 21:15-19		
Acts 2:1-42		

Paul	Reflections on your time of prayer	Your prayer of response to God
Acts 26:9-18		
2 Cor 3:4-6		
2 Cor 12:8-10		

Study 4

- Commitment to a cause

4.1 As you begin...

Were there any highlights from your prayer walking?

Talk about how your time of prayer and reflection on the scriptures went.

What response have you made to God's call to surrender?

4.2 Chapter review: Commitment to a cause

Note the three best insights you gained from reading this week's chapter.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Committed people make history. They live in alignment with their deeply held beliefs. Missionary movements build environments that sustain and reinforce commitment to the cause. They are in tension with the world around them because they have an agenda for change. They are also deeply connected with their world. It's the combination of connecting while remaining distinct that enables movements to make history and change the world.

Movements that Change the World, 70.

4.3 Experiencing commitment to a cause

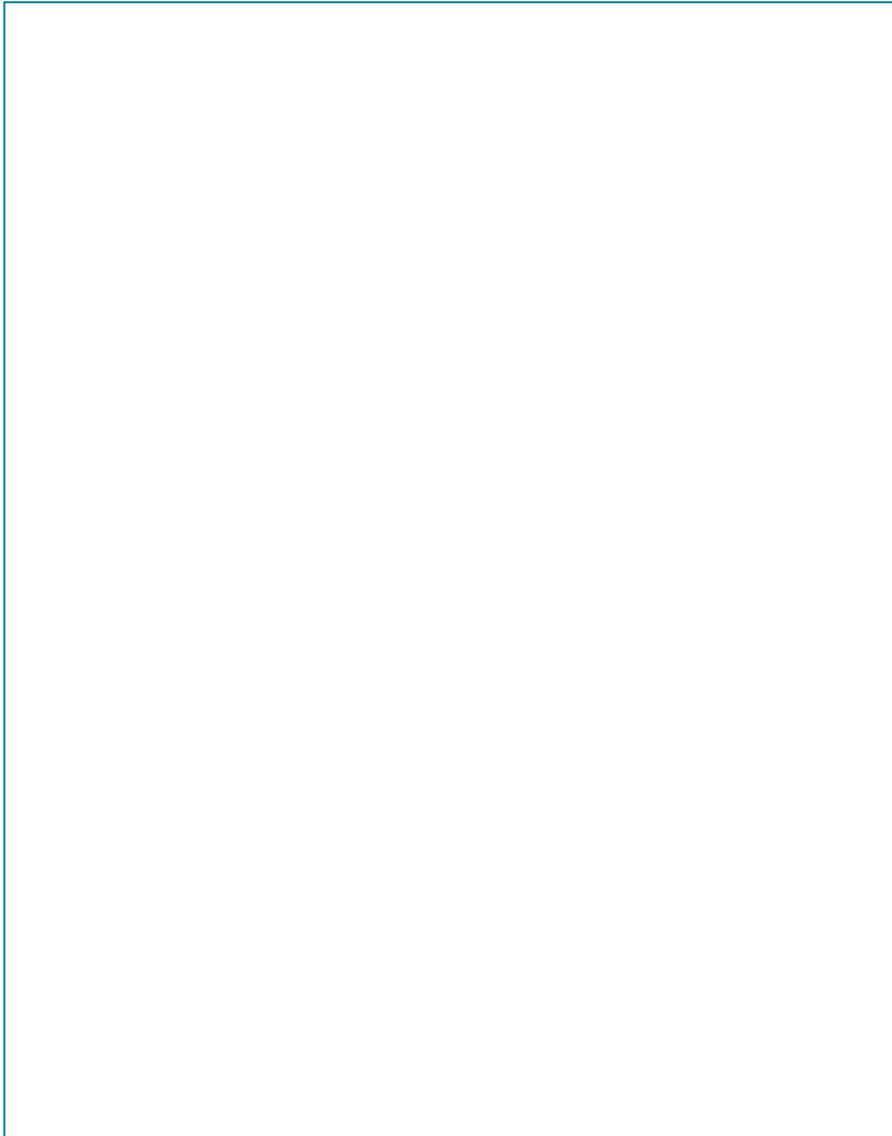
Share about a time when you were engaged in a cause in any sphere of life—a sporting team, a theatre production, or a work or community project, or a ministry assignment.

What drew you to this challenge?

What themes emerged as people in your group shared their stories?

What did your experience teach you about being engaged in a cause?

Draw a picture of the moment a person becomes truly engaged in a cause.



Talk about what you have drawn.

4.4 Continuing what Jesus started

The central figure in the book of Acts is Jesus—Risen Savior and Lord. Through his word and his Spirit, Jesus forms and grows his church. His growing band of followers play an important part in the story as they proclaim his word in the power of the Holy Spirit.

The gospel of Luke tells the story of what Jesus *began* to do. Acts tells the story of what Jesus *continued* to do through his followers. *Today* Jesus calls us to follow him and take up his cause.

a. What Jesus *began* to do (Luke)

Read Luke 4:14-30

How did Jesus model his commitment to the cause?

Read Luke 5:1-11.

What do you notice about how Jesus calls people to his cause?

Read Luke 10:1-8

What would it have been like to be a member of Jesus' missionary band?

From your reading of Luke, how did Jesus ensure that his disciples clearly understood his cause and aligned their lives with it?

b. What Jesus *continued* to do (Acts)

Read Acts 1:1-10

What challenge did Jesus leave with his disciples?

What resources did he provide?

From your reading of Acts, how did the early disciples live out their commitment to the cause entrusted to them?

What challenged their commitment?

What kept them on track?

c. What Jesus is *doing* now (through you).

On your own, read Lk 5:1-11 again.

Imagine Jesus has stepped into your world and called you to his cause.

What would it look like for you to follow him?

What would it look like for Jesus to teach you how to call others to his cause?

Write down your thoughts and share your responses together.

4.5 Wrap up

What's one thing you need to do before you meet again?

Pray for one another.

4.6 Before next session. . .

Reflect on Acts 20:13-38 and 2 Timothy 4:1-8. What do they reveal about Paul's commitment to the cause? What do they say to you about aligning your life with God's purposes?

Reflection exercise

Sit quietly in God's presence.
Ask God to bring you to a deeper place of surrender to his love, his will and his power.

1 Read

Choose a passage from the list below. Read through it a number of times.

2 Dwell

Place yourself in the passage. For example, on the beach with Paul and the elders, or with Timothy as he reads Paul's words.

3 Listen

As you dwell on the passage listen for what God is saying to you.

4 Pray

Let prayer well up within you in response to whatever has moved you.
Talk with Jesus about what happened for you in this time—as friend to friend.

5 Write

Journal your insights and write out a prayer of response to God in the spaces provided below.
Repeat this exercise with the same passage if it is helpful.

Paul	Reflections on Paul's commitment to the cause	Your prayer of response to God
Acts 20:13-38		
2 Timothy 4:1-8		

[illegible]

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal blue lines. In the bottom right corner, there is a faint, light blue graphic consisting of three curved arrows pointing upwards and to the right. The paper appears to be a template for writing or drawing.

Study 5

- Contagious relationships (1)

There is no faster or more cost effective way for an idea, a fashion, or a rumor to spread than from person to person and group to group. Technology can never replace the power of face-to-face recruitment by committed participants. Jesus understood the importance of relationships, and so did his followers. It does not take vast amounts of money to fill a nation with the knowledge of the gospel. What it takes is ordinary people, on fire with the love of Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit, who are willing to tell their families, friends, and casual acquaintances what God has done for them.

Movements that Change the World, 84.

5.1 As you begin...

Share your speech or letter from section 4.6 then pray for one another.

5.2 Chapter review: Contagious relationships

Note the three best insights you gained from reading this week's chapter.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

5.3 Contagious people



We are just six handshakes away from everyone on the planet.

It's called the six degrees of separation. Everyone on the planet is just half a dozen handshakes away from everyone else.

Certain people act as the links within and between social networks. Malcolm Gladwell in the Tipping Point classifies these people as connectors, mavens, and salesmen.

Connectors are the people specialists. They have an extraordinary ability to make multiple friends and acquaintances across different networks. With a foot in so many different relational worlds, they bring people together.

Mavens (Yiddish for someone who accumulates knowledge) are the information specialists. Mavens are the people you go to when you need information to make a decision. They love accumulating knowledge and communicating it to others.

Salesmen are the persuaders. They connect emotionally with others and convince them of the need to adopt new ideas or behaviors.

These three types of people who share relationships, knowledge, and persuasion are the bridges over which new ideas spread contagiously from person to person and group to group.
Movements that Change the World, 78.

Think about the people you know. Describe someone you know who fits the description of a Connector, Maven or Salesman.

As a group list some of the characteristics of contagious people.

In the space below draw a spider's web.



What does a spider's web say to you about how we are connected to others?

When you enter a house, first say, 'Peace to this house.' 6 If a man of peace is there, your peace will rest on him; if not, it will return to you. 7 Stay in that house, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his wages. Do not move around from house to house. [Luke 10:5-7](#)

5.4 The person of peace and the oikos (household)

Jesus commanded his disciples to go to the person of peace. This passage outlines a strategy that is still relevant today for the spread of the good news into a new field.

The person of peace is a key influencer in a community who welcomes a believer into their home (a house of peace). The person and their home become pivotal in the spread of the gospel in that location.

a. The Person of Peace

The person of peace is someone who is receptive to the gospel, well connected relationally, and has a reputation—either good or bad. The person of peace becomes a conduit for the passing of the message of the kingdom to an entire community of lost people. The person's reputation gives credence to the message. [Movements that Change the World, 83.](#)

Read Luke 10:1-11 and fill in the table below.

vs	What the person of peace does	vs	What the missionary does

b. The Oikos

Oikos is the New Testament word for extended household or family. Every new believer has a circle of influence including family, friends, coworkers and neighbors.

The person of peace is the doorway into an oikos.

Examples in scripture

Read the accounts of Jesus and the Samaritan woman, and of Peter and Cornelius. What do these examples teach us about how the gospel spreads to the person of peace and then to their oikos?

Passage	Insights on person of peace	Insights on oikos
John 4:1-42		
Acts 10:1-48		

From these passages, how did Jesus and Peter find the “person of peace”?

What obstacles were overcome to connect and communicate with these people of influence?

How is God at work in each story?

What part does the missionary play?

How did the gospel spread from an individual (person of peace) into a network of relationships (oikos)?

When have you seen or heard of the dynamic of the person of peace and the oikos at work?

Other examples of the person of peace and their oikos:

- Demoniac, Mark 5:1-20
- First disciples, John 1:1-42
- Mission of the seventy, Luke 10:1-12
- Lydia, Acts 16:11-15
- Philippian jailer, Acts 16:22-34

Case study: Finding a person of peace

My wife Michelle and I (Steve) stepped out one Sunday afternoon trusting God to lead us to a person of peace. We walked down to a nearby suburb where there are thousands of Chinese people—many from mainland China.

We walked and prayed around the shopping district. Trusting God would lead us to people. Michelle suggested we go into a Chinese bookstore. I reminded her we didn't read Chinese! What was the point? Wisely I finally agreed.

We stepped inside and immediately met a young woman working in the bookstore. We chatted for a few minutes about where she was from and our visits to mainland China. Eventually we broke off the conversation and began to move on, but she would not let us go. For the next twenty minutes she followed us around the bookstore wanting to talk.

We'd been praying for a person of peace. I'm not sure I was confident that we would find one so quickly.

Eventually we got away. As we stepped outside I was overwhelmed by the experience and had to sit down. I had such a strong sense that the Holy Spirit had led us to this young woman.

For seven years we had lived fifteen minute's walk from thousands of unreached Chinese people, and the first time we stepped out to connect with them, God opened the door.

Since that time we have become good friends with the young woman. We have met many of her friends. She's a connector. Some of them have been away camping with us. We have had a number of opportunities to share Jesus with them. The story continues to unfold.

5.5 Finding the person of peace

If you were to go looking for a person of peace what would you do?

How would you begin?

Where would you go looking?

Who would you take with you?

When will you start?

5.6 Wrap up

Share your best insight from this study.

In groups of 2-3 pray that God would lead you to at least one person of peace before you meet next.

5.7 Before next session

Seek out a person of peace. They may be someone you have not met before. They may be someone you meet as you prayer walk. They may be someone you already know. Remember, a person of peace is the doorway to a relational world you are not connected with.

Study 6

- Contagious relationships (2)

6.1 As you begin...

Share how you went looking for a person of peace.

Pray together for the people you connected with.

The most important factor in a person's decision to adopt a new faith is a close and positive relationship with a committed believer. Missionary movements grow exponentially when the gospel spreads through networks of preexisting relationships. For continued growth, a movement must maintain open relationships with outsiders, and it must reach out into new, adjacent social networks.

See Movements that Change the World, 75-78.

In our last study we looked at how the gospel spreads through people of peace and their networks of relationships. In this study you'll learn how to tell your story and share Jesus with others.

6.2 Sharing good news

Think of a time when you had news you couldn't wait to share with others.

What was the news?

Who did you tell?

How did you tell them?

Discuss

What are some of reasons that we like to share and listen to stories?

What makes stories so powerful?

What makes a story contagious?

Stories touch our emotions, stories help us connect with another person, stories are credible because they are from our own lives.

In the last session we looked at how the gospel spreads via people of peace and their relational networks. As you connect with responsive people it is important that you can share your story with them simply and briefly. As you make disciples you will need to teach them to do the same.

The good news is both your story and His story.

6.3 Paul's story

In Acts, Paul tells his story of conversion three times (Acts 9:1-22; 22:1-21; 26:1-23).

List the main points of Paul's story from the account in Acts 9:1-22.

1. Paul's life before he met Jesus (v1-2)

2. How he met Jesus (v3-19)

3. How his life changed (v20-22)

6.4 Your story

Paul was in the habit of telling history. Here is a simple model of how you can follow Paul's example and always be ready to share your story. Write down a few points under each heading.

1. Your life before you met Jesus

2. How you met Jesus

3. How your life has changed

Break into pairs and practice telling your story in these three parts. Each person has just five minutes to share their story. You may need to appoint a time keeper!

Keep practicing until you can share your story at any time with anyone. Practice telling each part using simple words that others can understand. You should be able to tell each part clearly and quickly.

Write up your story and bring it to the next session to share. The entire story should last about three minutes.

6.5 Sharing His story

For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures.

1 Corinthians 15:3-4

Paul in Galatians 1:8 condemns anyone who preaches 'another gospel' than the one he declares. Paul takes pains to show that the gospel he declares is the same as that preached by Peter, John, and the others. "Whether it was I or they, "Paul says, "so we preached and so you believed". (1 Corinthians 15:10-11)

Together with your story you need to be able to tell others the message of the gospel simply and briefly. This next section is to help you revisit the gospel and find a way to tell the gospel in a way that can be easily reproduced.

Paul shares the gospel

Acts provides us with a number of different presentations of the one gospel. Read Paul's presentation in Acts 17:22-31.

What are his main points?

The gospel in Acts

Certain themes recur in the various gospel presentations in Acts:

God

The nature and character of the God we proclaim

Sin

Every person is guilty of sin which results in death and a broken relationship with God.

Jesus

Jesus is the only way. His life, death and resurrection brings forgiveness of sins. He is the returning Judge.

Response

You must repent and believe.

Salvation

Salvation brings forgiveness of sin and the gift of the Holy Spirit.

On your own write down the essential truths that a person needs to understand in order to come to saving faith in Jesus Christ.

Include some key scriptures that support these essentials.

In pairs take 3-5 minutes to each share your gospel outline.

Use a white board or flip chart to list the essentials and supporting scriptures.

Is anything missing?

Can anything be eliminated while still maintaining the essence of the gospel message?

It is important for new believers to start sharing their story and his story right away. That means you need to be able to provide them with a simple method of sharing the gospel.

There are a number of gospel presentations in Appendix 1 below.

6.6 Wrap up

On your own, list the names of three people you could share your story and/or His story with before the next session.

In groups of two or three pray for each person by name.

6.7 Before next session . . .

Appoint a volunteer to teach the group to juggle in the next session. They do not need any prior experience. Instructions are at the study.

Write out your story so you can share it in 3 minutes.

Master your gospel presentation or one of the presentations in the Appendix, and come prepared to share it next session.

Share your story and/or His story with three people.

Important

As you encounter responsive people it is vital that you help them begin to learn and obey for themselves. The best way for this to happen is in a group setting, ideally with people from their oikos. This is much more “contagious” than integrating individuals into groups with existing believers.

In the Appendix below you will find instructions on how to run a simple Discovery bible study for seekers and new believers.

Appendix 1

Getting started

1. Ask: "If it was possible to know God personally, would you like to know how?"
2. Share your story in 3-5 minutes.
3. Ask: "Could I show you from the Bible how you can know God personally?"
4. Share a simple gospel presentation.

Gospel Presentations

A gospel presentation includes the basics of the good news of the Lordship of Jesus Christ, his kingdom come/coming, his death, burial, and resurrection, and the free forgiveness of sins for those who repent and trust in the person of Jesus Christ.

There are examples of concise gospel presentations in the New Testament, as well as contemporary ways of presenting the gospel.

See www.theopedia.com/Gospel_presentations

Here are some contemporary presentations.

A. Two ways to live.

1. God the creator; humanity ruling under his authority.
2. Humanity rebels, wishing to run things its own way.
3. God judges (and will judge) humanity for this rebellion.
4. In his love, God sends Jesus to die as an atoning sacrifice.
5. In his power, God raises Jesus to life as ruler and judge.
6. This presents us with a challenge to repent and believe.

www.matthiasmedia.com.au/2wtl

B. How to Know God Personally

1. God loves you and offers a wonderful plan for your life.
2. All of us sin and our sin has separated us from God.
3. Jesus Christ is God's only provision for our sin. Through Him we can know and experience God's love and plan for our life.
4. We must individually receive Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord; then we can know and experience God's love and plan for our lives.

www.ccci.org/wij/index.aspx

C. Share Jesus without fear

Begin by asking your friend questions about his or her beliefs.

Open your Bible and let God's Word speak for itself.

1. "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).
2. "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 6:23).
3. "In reply Jesus declared, 'I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again'" (John 3:3).
4. "Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me'" (John 14:6).
5. "That if you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. As the Scripture says, 'Anyone who trusts in him will never be put to shame'" (Romans 10:9).
6. "And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again" (2 Corinthians 5:15).
7. "Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me" (Revelation 3:20).

Invite your friend to read a verse aloud and explain the verse to you. Take him through all the verses listed above. If your friend interprets a passage incorrectly, don't argue or offer your interpretation, but politely ask him to read it again, and then explain it a second time.

Even if your friend mentions that he doesn't believe in or agree with the Bible, it is best not to argue. You can state that you simply want him to understand what the Bible says about eternity.

www.allaboutgod.com/share-jesus-without-fear.htm

D. The Bridge to life

1. God's love

God created us in His own image to be His friend and to experience a full life assured of His love. But He didn't make us robots—He gave us the freedom of choice.

2. Humanity's problem

Humanity has chosen to disobey God and thus become separated from Him. This separation means the penalty of an eternal spiritual death.

3. God's remedy

On our own, we cannot attain the perfection needed to bridge the gap between humanity and God. Christ's death alone is adequate for our sin and bridges the gulf between God and humanity.

4. Our response

Believing means trust and commitment—acknowledging our sinfulness, trusting Christ's forgiveness, and letting Him control our life. Eternal life is a gift for us to receive.

<http://www.ibcberlin.org/blog/wp-content/uploads/bridge.pdf>

Remember it is important that the gospel presentation you use is simple and memorable so that you can quickly train new believers to share it with their friends and family.

Appendix 2

Discovery Bible Study

This is a simple approach you can use with a person of peace and their oikos. From the beginning your intention must be to reproduce the group. The group must not be dependent on your input.

1. Open

What are you thankful for?

What are your needs? What are the needs of friends and neighbors?

As they come to faith the questions above can lead to prayer.

Can this group do anything to meet those needs?

Avoid fixing their problems. This is a chance for them to learn how God can meet needs and to disciple them for ministry.

2. Review

Who can retell last week's lesson?

Ask the group to help each other remember correctly. If they get it wrong and are not corrected by the group – ask them to read the part that states what they are saying.

Did anybody apply what they learned last week? What did they do differently because of the study?

Who did you share with and what was their reaction?

This is important – they must learn to share with others. As they share, they need to look for responsive people rather than convince those who are not interested.

3. Read

Focus is on scripture not human opinion

4. Discuss

How would you say this in your own words?

What does this teach us about God?

What does this teach us about people?

If this story is true, what would you need to obey?

Who are you going to tell about what you have learned?

This approach was developed by David Watson. There is a detailed manual entitled Discovering God available on his website at: www.cpmtr.org/resources

Study 7

- Rapid mobilization

"Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men."
Matthew 4:19

7.1 As you begin...

Go around the groups and talk about how you went sharing your story and/or his story?

Pray for the people you shared with and any people of peace you have encountered.

In pairs practice sharing your story and your gospel presentation.

7.2 Chapter review: Rapid mobilization

Note the three best insights you gained from reading this week's chapter.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

At the beginning of his ministry, Jesus recruited disciples with the promise that he would teach them how to catch people rather than fish. He refused to entrust himself to the crowds, but he entrusted himself to his disciples. Jesus reached the multitudes, but his purpose was to grow the leaders who would continue his ministry in the power of the Holy Spirit.
Movements that Change the World, 96.

7.3 Lessons from the art of juggling



Appoint a volunteer to teach the group to juggle. The instructions are in the Appendix below.

7.4 Workers for the harvest

In the Gospels and Acts Jesus and his disciples are often on the move. The Christian movement spread rapidly because they mobilized ordinary people for ministry.

How Jesus mobilized workers

Read Matthew 9:35-38, 10:1-15

What strikes you about how Jesus mobilized workers?

Review Jesus' encounter with the Samaritan woman (John 4:1-42).
How quickly was she mobilized? What qualified her for the task?

How do Jesus' methods of growing leaders differ from your experience?

What Jesus did	Your experience

When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus.
Acts 4:13

How Paul mobilized workers

There are around one hundred names in Acts and the Epistles of different people associated with Paul in ministry.

Read Romans 16:3-16 and list the names of the people Paul identifies as coworkers and how he describes them.

Verse	Name	Description

Read 2 Timothy 2:2. How many generations of workers does Paul identify?

How many generations of workers can you identify in your ministry?

- 1. Who has invested in you?
- 2. Who are you equipping?
- 3. Who are they investing in?

What do you need to do differently so that you can begin to rapidly mobilize workers?

Wrap up

Share an important insight you have gained about Rapid Mobilization.

7.7 Before next session. . . .

Seek to share your story and/or his story with a person of peace.
Find someone (or a small group) who is willing to let you teach them about the "person of peace" and their "oikos" (relational network). Teach them how to share their story and his story.

As they begin looking for the person of peace and sharing Christ, be prepared to teach them to train others also.

Appendix

Lessons from the Art of Juggling

Instructions

Choose a volunteer who will teach the rest of the group to juggle. Take them out of the room and show them the pictures. You have no more than five minutes to train them and then the volunteer will come back in to train the whole group in how to start juggling.

It's best if you have practiced ahead of time and are able to show the volunteer the basics of how to throw three paper balls in the proper sequence. The goal is simply for them to get comfortable throwing all three balls...they do not have to be caught. We simply want the person to learn how to throw.

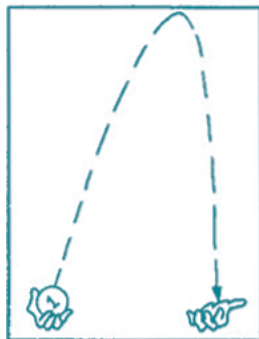
Get ready

Roll three pieces of paper into three balls.

Take two balls in one hand.

One ball in the other hand.

The hand with two balls will always be the one with which you start.

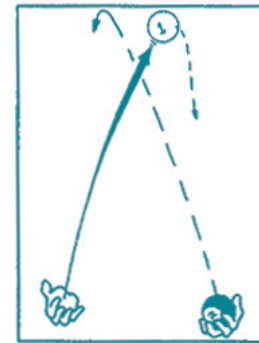


ONE BALL

One ball

Practice throwing ball one to its point at the top of the box.

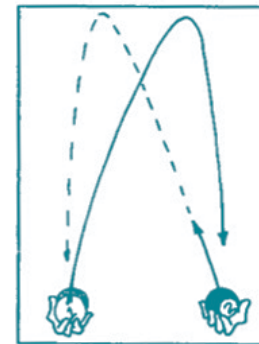
TIP: If the balls don't land near your hands, let them drop. At this stage the most important thing is to learn how to throw properly, not how to catch. As you learn to throw you don't catch any of the balls, let them drop to the floor.



TWO BALLS

Two balls

As ball one reaches its apex practice throwing the second ball to its point at the top of the box.



READY FOR THREE BALLS

Three balls

As ball two reaches its apex practice throwing the third ball to its point at the top of the box.

REMINDER: If the balls don't land near your hands, let them drop. The goal is not to catch the balls, but to make three good throws. If you can consistently make three good throws you're on the way to juggling. Try counting out loud as you are throwing the balls by saying "1" as you throw ball one, "2" as you throw ball two, and "3" as you throw ball three.

Group exercise

Bring the volunteer back in to the room and have them teach the rest of the group how to make three juggling throws without using the pictures but rather we want them to demonstrate. Take about 5 minutes to see if the group can get a handle on how this is done.

Debrief

The instructor and apprentice instructor share how the experience went for them.

Group members share how it went for them.

What does this teach us about rapidly equipping people?

Resource: Lessons from the Art of Juggling by Michael Gleb

Study 8

- Adaptive methods

8.1 As you begin

Share how you are going in looking for people of peace, sharing your story and sharing His story.

Pray for the people you have connected with.

8.2 Chapter review: Adaptive Methods

The three best insights you gained from reading this week's chapter?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

8.3 James Naismith—inventor of basketball



In the late 1800s James Naismith became convinced that he stood a better chance of exemplifying the Christian life through sports rather than through preaching. So he took a job as a physical education instructor at the YMCA's International Training School for Christian Workers in Springfield, Massachusetts. Naismith's vision was "to win men for the Master through the gym."

Naismith set out to create an indoor activity for students during the winter months. Having studied European gymnastics models, and toyed with indoor versions of football, soccer and lacrosse, Naismith spent two weeks testing various games with his athletics class—with no success. Finally, Naismith decided to draw from all of these sports: with a ball that could be easily handled, play that involved running and passing with no tackling, and a goal at each end of the floor. Thus, at a Springfield YMCA in 1891, was the game of basketball born.

Basketball served as an important evangelical tool for many during its first 50 years. In his 1941 book "Basketball: Its Origin and Development," Naismith wrote, "Whenever I witness games in a church league, I feel that my vision, almost half a century ago, of the time when the Christian people would recognize the true value of athletics, has become a reality."

Amazingly, Naismith never profited from the sport he invented.

The Spiritual Pathway to March Madness
John Murray Wall Street Journal March 18, 2010.

Why was James Naismith so effective in his attempt to create this new sport?

How is basketball an example of an adaptive method?

8.4 What effectiveness looks like

To fulfill their mission, the most effective movements are prepared to change everything about themselves except their core beliefs. Unencumbered by tradition, movements feel free to experiment with new forms and strategies. Movements pursue their mission with methods that are effective, flexible, and reproducing.

As the Word made flesh, Jesus fully entered into our world. He chose to communicate and minister in ways that matched his context and were easily picked up by his disciples. His message was profound but simple. It was readily transmitted, shaped, and passed on by his disciples.

Adaptive methods	Description
Sustainable	Able to reproduce without external funding
Flexible	Can be modified as the context changes
Transferable	Easily passed on to new disciples
Simple	Only the essentials are included
Functional	Effective for the purpose they were intended
Scaleable	Capable of multiplying without distortion
Reproducing	Spreads rapidly from person to person, network to network

8.5 The ministry of Jesus

What does Luke 10:1-12 tell you about Jesus’ methods? In what sense were they effective?

8.6 The ministry of Jesus through you

Assess your current ministry in sharing the gospel and making disciples. How effective are your methods?

Adaptive methods	Not effective					Very effective
Sustainable	1	2	3	4	5	
Flexible	1	2	3	4	5	
Transferable	1	2	3	4	5	
Simple	1	2	3	4	5	
Functional	1	2	3	4	5	
Scaleable	1	2	3	4	5	
Reproducing	1	2	3	4	5	

As you reflect on how you make disciples, what do you need to do to make it more effective?

As a whole group share how each one can become more effective in ministry methods.

8.7 Wrap up

Jesus called his disciples to follow him and he promised to teach them how to win others and make disciples. We are not alone in this challenge. Jesus is our teacher and by his word and his Spirit he will empower us to minister effectively.

Pray for one another.

8.7 Before next session. . .

If you have found a person of peace, seek out an opportunity to share your story and/or the gospel with them this week. If not keep looking and praying that God would lead you to someone.

Complete exercise 9.2 below.

Study 9

- Bringing it together

9.1 As you begin ...

Share how you have gone sharing the gospel and looking for people of peace since you joined the group.

Pray for the people you have connected with.

9.2 Looking back

Go back over your notes for each of the sessions. Identify the key insight for each one.

Topic	One key insight
Why movements matter	
What Jesus started	
White-hot faith	
Commitment to a cause	
Contagious relationships (1)	
Contagious relationships (2)	
Rapid mobilization	
Adaptive methods	

As a group, share your insights for each of the topics. Cover one topic at a time.

9.3 Reflection

Take 10 minutes alone to answer the questions below.

Question	Reflection
Through these studies what have you learned about yourself?	
What have you learned about God and how he works?	
What will you do next?	
On a scale of 1-10 how likely is it that you will follow through? Why?	
What will it take to get closer to a "10"?	

Discuss your responses together.

9.4 What will you do?

List the three most important things you need to do to implement what you have learned from these studies?

9.5 Prayer

Each person in the group share what they are going to do, then have two people pray for them.

What's next?

Jesus said, "This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man scatters seed on the ground. Night and day, whether he sleeps or gets up, the seed sprouts and grows, though he does not know how. All by itself the soil produces grain—first the stalk, then the head, then the full kernel in the head. As soon as the grain is ripe, he puts the sickle to it, because the harvest has come."

Mark 4:26-29

The next series of studies will deal with the components of a plan to multiply disciples and churches.

1. Reproducing ENTRY Strategy.

How do you start talking to people about spiritual matters or take the gospel into new areas?

2. Reproducing GOSPEL Presentation.

How will the gospel be presented?

3. Reproducing DISCIPLESHIP:

- a. Reproducing beginning/short term discipleship (6-8 lessons)
- b. Reproducing long-term discipleship (may take 1-3 years)

4. Reproducing CHURCH Formation.

Teaching and helping groups become church.

5. Reproducing LEADERSHIP training.

Multiplying workers who can equip others in 1-5.

Meanwhile we'd like to hear your suggestions for making this study guide even better. Visit us online to provide your input and to receive news about the next series of studies.

www.movements.net