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WEEK OF April 15 – April 21 / GROUP TIME GUIDE

This guide is given to <u>aide</u> in the facilitation of leading your small group. It is <u>only an aide</u> for you to experience Christ together.

Prayer: Begin your time in group together by inviting God to be with you. Ask Him to change you as you seek Him and study His Word together. Ask him to use everyone in the group to encourage, challenge, and teach one another.

Bible Study:

- 1. This weekend Pastor Travis taught on The Mission and Its Church out of Acts 1:1-8. From these verses, we discussed three foundational principles about the mission and its church. The first being, "God is on a mission." This truth centered itself around the reality that God's mission is rooted I the identity of God himself.
 - a. What is God's mission?
 - b. How is this mission rooted in God's identity?
- 2. Secondly, Pastor Travis taught, "God invites us, as His people, to join in His mission." God's mission is to expand his kingdom locally and globally, and He has chosen to do so through his people, the church.
 - a. What comes to your mind when you think of the word, "church"? What are some misconceptions of the word in our culture today? What is the correct understanding?
 - b. Discuss this powerful quote by Alan Hirsch, "*It's not so much that the church has a mission, it's that the mission has a church.*"
 - i. What does he mean when he says this?
 - ii. How can we apply it to our understanding of the church?
- 3. Thirdly, we learned, "God empowers us by His Spirit for His mission." Out of this Pastor Travis reminded us that God takes ordinary people to do extraordinary things because the Spirit of God is at work in and through them. God does not *need_*us; we desperately need Him!
 - a. What does it mean to be empowered by God's Holy Spirit?
 - b. How does His Spirit help us accomplish the mission today?
- 4. In closing, Pastor Travis challenged everyone by asking two insightful questions. Read these out loud and discuss:
 - a. Do I have a passion to see God's Kingdom expanded locally and globally?
 - b. Am I leveraging what has been entrusted to me for the sake of God's Kingdom?