

Growth Group Discussion Questions
For Our Growth Group- On Line Meetings
 “Change The World Sunday!” Missions Sunday
“Missionaries In Our Own Backyard”
 Week of October 18th, 2020

Summary- Missions Weekend... “Reach The World Sunday”. Dwight Smith (our Sunday morning On-Site Speaker- our missionary from SCPI we support) inspired us all this weekend, while some of us caught the message on the Internet Ben did on the subject. The good news is, Jesus is still using normal people to do extraordinary things. He uses “us” to personally help connect people in our city and neighborhoods with Jesus! We could call that “incarnational ministry”. In fact, nothing is higher on His list of “things to do” than for each of us to take aim at those “in our circle of acquaintances” of family and friends, and find ways to show them Jesus. That includes telling our stories and showing them how much Jesus means to us and what He can do for them! Backyard Missionaries... we are called to be! Let’s discuss together what that means for us to make that happen!

1. Ok, what are some of your lasting impressions from the Sunday message?

2. Dwight Smith, our speaker at our live service on campus this weekend, made the following statement: “Whatever ministry God is going to do in Lomita, He is going to do through the church.”

1 Cor.16:19 The churches of Asia send you greetings. Aquila and Prisca, together with the church in their house, send you hearty greetings in the Lord.

Question: Look at 1 Cor.16:19. Who or what is the church? (Hint: it’s not a building)

Mark 16:15 And then he told them, “Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone.”

Question: Read Mark.16:15. Does Jesus’ call, to “*go and preach the good news*”, just apply to church leaders or to everyone who calls themselves a Christian that makes up His church?

1 Cor.9:22...Yes, I try to find common ground with everyone, doing everything I can to save some.

Question: What attitude did Paul display in 1 Cor. 9:22 that could inspire us to take action as Backyard Missionaries?

3. God the Father, in order to connect with people, determined that “incarnation” (coming personally to bring the message) was the best way to explain Himself & the message of salvation- and He did it by sending Jesus His Son into the world. He changed everything!! So, “Incarnational Ministry” is bringing Jesus to other people personally, showing them the good news by your words and deeds.

Question: A Backyard Missionary is a form of “incarnational ministry” Discuss ways you can use the following experiences to bring the Jesus message to those around you in an “incarnational” way?

- Join A Neighborhood Organization & Get Involved
- Get to know what your neighbors care about.
- Help org. a “block” party for holiday celebrations.
- Cooking extra food & bringing it to a neighbor
- Buying an extra dozen donuts & giving them to a neighbor
- Organizing elder care in your neighborhood

Question: Could you see yourself, as a single person or a couple, inviting/gathering a small group of family & friends to host/lead/facilitate a basic 4-week “Search The Scriptures” Bible Study and Discussion about the claims of Jesus Christ? Why or why not? Explain your answer.

Question: What would be your biggest concern(s) of starting/leading/hosting/facilitating such a gathering?

Question: Could you see yourself doing that if you had all the materials and a little training before asking anyone to join you and actually holding the first session?

4. Discuss some ways that Baycities Lomita Church is & has been involved in “incarnational ministry” here in the South Bay.

5. What are some other “incarnational ministries” that you would like to be part of or be involved in developing here at Baycities Lomita?