

DISPATCHES FROM THE FRONT

ISLANDS ON THE EDGE Small Group Discussion Guide

LESSON 1 | “MARKS OF THE MESSIAH” (DVD chapters 3-4)

1. What are the marks of the Messiah? (Luke 7:22-23) How do the lives of Kamal, Endri, Samosir, Esther, and Johannes demonstrate the marks of the Messiah?
2. In our culture what do we sometimes substitute for true religion? (James 1:27)
3. What needs do you see around you (physical, emotional, and spiritual)? What is your responsibility as a believer to alleviate those needs? How are you carrying out this responsibility?

LESSON 2 | “MODERN DAY SLAVERY” (DVD chapters 5-6, 9 & 13)

1. What were the groups of women presented in these segments? How were their situations unique and how were they the same? What were your reactions to what you saw?
2. What kinds of people are being taken advantage of in your town? What kinds of people are we prone to despise and “write off” because of their situations? Read Micah 6:8. What might “doing justice, loving mercy, and walking humbly with God” really look like in your society?

LESSON 3 | “JESUS CAN MEET YOUR NEEDS” (DVD chapters 10 & 12)

1. Read John 4:7-26. How is the conversation with the drug dealer in this segment similar to Christ’s conversation with the woman at the well? What are the core components of the Gospel message? How might this inform the way we approach sharing the Gospel?
2. Why does the Gospel demand that we interact with and meet the needs of people totally different from us? Our most critical need has been met by Christ in Himself, and nothing can separate us from His love so why is our default mode to stay away from “dirty, dying people”? (Romans 8:35; Luke 12:4)
3. Read Luke 9:23-25. What might “saving your life” look like on a daily basis? According to Christ, what is the guaranteed outcome of these two ways? What kind of risk should characterize the Christian life?

LESSON 4 | “ASK AND THEN RECEIVE” (DVD chapter 14 & 15)

1. What were the seemingly insignificant events God used to bring the Gospel to the Filipino immigrants in Borneo? How far does God’s sovereignty extend over the daily events of life? What implications does this have for reaching strangers with the Gospel?
2. Read Colossians 4:2-6. What’s the relationship between prayer and sharing the Gospel? How does your life and practice compare with this passage?
3. When we pray that God would “open up a door for the Word,” what are we really asking Him to do?
4. What are some creative ways for you to build relationships that God could use as a door for the Word?