

DISPATCHES FROM THE FRONT

“THE POWER OF HIS RISING” Small Group Discussion Guide

LESSON 1 | GOSPEL-DRIVEN PASSION & PROFESSIONALISM

1. Identify different professions of men and women in the New Testament who were used of God. (Luke 19:1-10; Acts 16:14-15; 18:1-3; I Corinthians 16:19)
2. What are your impressions of Rick and Chris? What changes do you observe in their lives between the Travelers Rest segment and three years later in South Asia?

LESSON 2 | WALKING THROUGH THE FIRE

1. Jehru said, “Each believer has his own story, but all must walk through the fire.” What is your story? How have you walked through the fire? Are you still walking through it? (Isaiah 43:2; Daniel 3:8-30)
2. In light of Philippians 3:10, Matthew 16:24-25, John 15:20-21, and II Timothy 2:3-4, what does sharing in Christ’s sufferings mean? How is it being demonstrated in your life?

LESSON 3 | ONCE FOR ALL

1. Compare the Muslim Day of Sacrifice to the sacrifice of Christ on the cross. What makes Christ’s sacrifice superior? How do these scenes impact your view of sin and of Christ’s death on the cross? (Hebrews 9:24-28; 10:11-14)
2. Meditate on the paradox of “the horror *and* wonder of Calvary.” (Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Luke 22:23-23:49; Colossians 2:13-15; I Peter 2:21-25)

LESSON 4 | “WITHOUT JESUS, WHERE WOULD I BE?”

1. God uses our interests to shape us and direct us in His service. Describe the paths and preparation of Emil, Phil, Rick, Chris, and Chad. What path are you on? What skill or interest or ability do you have? How are you using it for the advance of the Gospel?
2. Read John 4:35-38 and I Corinthians 3:5-9. How is this “division of labor” principle worked out in the lives of Emil, Phil, Rick, Sushil, and the Tripura church planters?

LESSON 5 | A DELIBERATE LIFE

1. List specific ways a believer can live out the Gospel in a deliberate way. How are you pouring the life God has given you into the lives of others? (I Timothy 4:10; II Timothy 4:5-7; Philippians 2:16-22)
2. As you listen to Rick’s and Chris’s testimonies of “strength in weakness” during these initial years of hard labor for the Gospel, how are you encouraged by this? Describe specific ways in which this principle is at work in your own life. (II Corinthians 4:7-15; 12:9; 13:9)