June 10th, 2017

Global Perspective

**Exercise #1**

It is a reoccurring theme throughout the Bible that God uses the blessings He gives us to give himself glory. The following study is done by David Platt, to show snippets of the Bible where God has moved in a way to reveal Himself to all nations. Some small notes on each passage, 10 have been done, the other 10 can probably be thought of in your own study.

Genesis 1:26 – 28

* Filling the earth with God’s image

Genesis 12:1-3

* Blessing Abraham, and all peoples on earth will be blessed by you

Genesis 26:4

* Offspring all these lands (Isaac)

Genesis 28:14

* Families through him will be blessed (Jacob)

Exodus 14:4

* “They are going to know who I am”; story of God parting the Red Sea, and all the Egyptians seeing God’s glory

Joshua 5-6

* The Wall of Jericho came down and there’s no way the musicians got credit for it
* This act allowed the first major city of the promised land (talk about blessing….)

Daniel 3:28-29

* At the end King Nebuchadnezzar, a pagan king, recognizes God,
* “no other god can save this way”

Daniel 6:26-27

* Another pagan king recognizes God

1 Kings 10:1-9

* Queen of Sheba’s response to King Solomon’s blessings

Psalms 23

* For his namesake, for His glory

Isaiah 43:1- 7

Ezekiel 36:22-23

Matthew 28:18-20

Mark 16:15

Luke 24:44-49

Acts 1:8

Galatians 1:15-16

Romans 15:20-21

2 Peter 3:9

Revelation 7:9-10

**Exercise #2**

Workshop exercise adapted by Boto Joseph edited by Celestine Wong in how to reach out to those in our communities. Boto Joseph creates four points of which evangelism to a nonbeliever (cross cultural) the following, only points 1, 2 and some of 3 are elaborated:

1. Starting the Conversation

* This is the biggest step of faith and requires being uncomfortable. To practice this we’ll look at the top countries on peoplesgroups.org’s top list and find the most spoken language:
  + <http://www.peoplegroups.org/explore/Explore.aspx#topmenu>
* Once we have the country and language, we’ll look at their standard greeting or some ways of greeting others.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Country | Language | Greeting |
| Nepal | Sanskrit | Namaste |
| China | Chinese | 您好(Nǐn hǎo) |
| Malaysia | Malaysian | Selamat Pagi/ Selamat Petang |
| Pakistan/Bangladesh (Islamic Countries) | Arabic | سلام, salam |

* It’s not about perfecting the language – of course do your best, but the idea is to help you approach someone if they speak another language

*“Where are you from?”*

*“I’m from [country]”*

*“[appropriate greeting], is that how you say it?”*

* This can help start the conversation, and probe more on their home or what brought them to your context.

*“How long have you been here?”*

* Listen for responses and wait for questions

1. Steering the Conversation

* Further in a more developed conversation or relationship

*“How long have you been here?”*

*“I’ve been here [num] of years”*

*“[current location] is a tough place to live, we need God’s help” or*

*“America is going through a tough time, we need God’s help”*

* Listen to how they respond. Maybe they’ll agree, or disagree but you can follow up with

*“Do you feel near/far from God?”*

* Again, listen to how they respond

1. Sewing the Gospel Seed and (4) Seeking a Commitment

*“I think all religions are similar”*

* Boto Jospeh makes it a point to say ‘similar’ instead of ‘same’

*“We all want to connect with God, but God is perfect. And we’ve done many wrong things, and we’re imperfect so that’s like an issue”*

* Avoid Christian lingo to help relate to them, and as they explain their points of views, then you can ask them how they feel about ‘these wrong things’. Some cultures are familiar and accustomed to using the word ‘sin’, but what’s their context? How do they feel about it?
* The rest of the workshop, parts 3 and 4 can be explained more [here](http://www.covlifemedia.org/dl_dialog.php?filename=v4.0/2016_05_14--Reaching_The_Unreached_In_Your_Own_Backyard--Boto_Joseph.mp3)

In Intervarsity whenever we did some evangelism through our proxy boards, we prepared the weekend before by simulating some of these conversations. We would pair up and say small written prepared lines that would help us guide the conversation. There is a difference between reading the dialogue and vocally practicing it with a friend. The greetings in different languages is meant to help connect you with whomever you’re speaking to. It’s okay to mess up, because that’s when you ask for help. Even Jesus’ first experience evangelizing came from Him being in need (of water, being thirsty), so we can be the same.