

HEARING IN TECHNICOLOR



Discussion Guide

CHAPTER 1

- Step one in reaching your community is observing them. Are you observing your community? What are their needs? Who are they? Does your church look like your community?
- The next step in our journey was recognizing our apprehensions. We know we are called to reach out to our neighbors in our community, but what is keeping us from doing so? What are the apprehensions in your ministry that may be hindering you from reaching your community?
- If you consistently teach and preach good theology, your church probably already knows what the right thing to do is. They may need to be reminded of what they already know. What do you need to remind your church?

CHAPTER 2

- Repetition can bring comfort to the uncomfortable. It is as simple as moving a relationship from acquaintance to friend. Doing God's work can be uncomfortable at times, but the more we take part in God's plan, the more comfortable we become with the work. What can you be repetitive with now, to make you more comfortable with the work God has called you to do?
- Urgency normally comes from realization. Once you realize what needs to be done, you are more likely to do it. What is paramount to the vision of your ministry? Have those around you realized the importance of your vision? What can you do to bring them to that realization?
- Integration is the action step after realization. In ministry, we can all recall a time that we have realized what needs to be done, but have not integrated the steps to complete the task. What steps can you integrate in your current ministry to fulfill God's call on your church?

CHAPTER 3

- Financial stability is one of the greatest benefits of taking part in the joy of giving. Many times, people do not understand or see the stabilization of their church's finances unless they are taught. Other than a sermon series on giving, what are some ways that you can teach your congregation financial stability?
- When you become a church that welcomes all people to take part in worship, there are things that you will inevitably appreciate that you never would have expected. What surprises have you experienced at your church that you cannot live without now? What do you appreciate about what God is doing uniquely at your church?
- When your church mentality becomes one that shows an openness to all people in the church building, don't be surprised if they show that same openness outside of it. If you have already started exhibiting this openness to all people at church, how have you seen that mindset multiplied outside of it?





CHAPTER 4

- One thing to remember about anyone that has found their way to your church is that they are all people in need of God's love. When you realize that all people have this need, highlighting God's sovereignty in the lives of your congregants becomes an even greater joy. How has God shown up in the lives of your church attendees? What are some amazing stories that you could use that point to God and His glory?
- In multicultural ministry, you cannot simply invite people to be a part of the ministry going on in your church. You have to be willing to invite them to take part in the ministry. If integration is a necessity to the flourishing of God's church, how can you integrate the right people to doing the right things for His Kingdom?
- One of the issues that often goes unnoticed among immigrants is the overwhelming feeling of isolation. Many people that come to this country have shared stories of only having enough to fit in a couple suitcases. When we take into consideration that many of these people come with almost nothing, what can we do as a church to address the needs of our immigrant brothers and sister so show them that they are not alone?

CHAPTER 5

- To accommodate every culture, we must not show dominance of another culture. To do this, we celebrate all cultures. How can you accommodate all cultures that are in your church?
- When you are accommodating other people, you quickly learn how to consider their needs. God will often show you the needs of the people under your care. What are some needs that God has made apparent to you?
- Even though this book captures the story of multiple cultures worshiping together under one roof, there is one culture that has come from our church: that we embrace all of them. If your church is welcoming of all people, what are some identifiers that have shown you that multicultural worship is being embraced?

CHAPTER 6

- One beautiful thing about redemption is that even when times are difficult, God and His people can have your back. How has your church shown redemption for those in your congregation?
- Dedication is key to a thriving ministry. It is one thing for people to join a church, it is another thing to become servants within a church. How can you teach this perspective in your ministry?
- One of the most bittersweet moments is preparing a family to leave a church and spread the Gospel. It's a celebration because God's work is being done, but a sadness because there's a part of you that just does not want them to leave. How can you show your congregation that the joy of the Great Commission greatly outweighs the sadness of sending people into the mission field?





CHAPTER 7

- Leaders cannot lead if they do not know where they are going. It is why casting a clear vision is imperative. Have you cast a vision for your church? How can you make it more clear?
- Having a deep devotion to Christ is one of the safest ways to ensure not only that your vision is in line with God's plan for the church, but that it also gives dedication to the vision at hand. Is your leadership team devoted to Christ first? How have you ensured that the vision lines up with Christ's plan for the church?
- There's a special fun to dreaming and planning. From time to time, my wife and I consider what our dream home would look like. But unless you lay down the foundation or even the first piece of building material, that home will never take shape. What are the action steps you can take now to ensure that your vision moves from dreaming to reality?

CHAPTER 8

- In the early stages of multicultural ministry, it's easy to simply invite people to be a part of your ministry, but it has to be more than that. You have to include all people that are willing to take part in what is happening in your ministry. How can you include others into what God is doing in your church?
- If you've worked in ministry for any length of time, you've probably heard the phrase, "Ministry is Messy." The messiness of ministry is unavoidable, but you can handle a lot of the instability that comes with ministry if you are willing to set up good communication strategies. What communication strategies do you use to ensure that things don't fall through the cracks?
- Determination is key to ensuring the success of ministry. There are days that are going to be hard. We cannot, however, make every day a difficult one. We have to ensure that we take care of our own needs so that we do not lose our tenacity in doing God's work. How do you protect yourself from burnout?

CHAPTER 9

- Integrating multicultural ministry cannot happen without reconciliation. Many times we cannot overcome hard truths without educating ourselves and others in our congregation. Is there someone in your congregation who can handle honest, but hard conversations to educate your congregation?
- One of the greatest joys in ministry is that we are all on the same team. It's why this book exists. My hope is to encourage and equip other pastors to approach multicultural ministry with willingness and excitement. Over the years, I've been able to work alongside community leaders, other pastors, and people within our congregation to do God's work. What collaborations has God made available to you? How can you use these opportunities effectively?
- Education is key to enhancing the ministry of your church. This does not necessarily mean that you have to attend a class or pay for a degree, but it does mean that you have to be willing to stretch yourself and learn. What are ways that you can gain the necessary education to take your church to the next level?

