THIS STUDY GUIDE IS DESIGNED for use in a group setting, such as a Sunday school class, Bible study, or home fellowship. One chapter per week is a good pace for group study. You should allow about 45 minutes to complete each study session. The leader is encouraged to review the extra material in the *Leader's Edition*. Below are brief notes and instructions for each of the sections found in the study guides:

**Icebreaker**— The icebreakers are designed to introduce the theme of the study session, as well as provide an opportunity for the group to get to know one another better. If the group is small enough, each person should be encouraged to participate.

Comments on the Reading— Each lesson selects three quotes from the chapter which summarize or highlight what the chapter is about. Then relevant questions are offered to guide the group discussion. However, you need not limit yourself to these three selections or questions. They are merely points of departure.

**Scripture Close-up**— This section is designed to put an exclamation point on your discussion. By now the group is primed to get the most out of the passage being studied. A suggested question is given to draw out the key principle being highlighted.

**Breakout Group Assignment**— If your group is large enough, you can divide into several groups to complete the suggested activity. Each breakout group should come to a consensus about what it will report back to the larger group and appoint a spokesperson to share their ideas.

Praying Through the Window— Here is the opportunity to put into immediate action what you are studying by praying for the assigned unreached ethnic group in the 10/40 Window Prayer Calendar. You can use the calendar in the back of this book, or order copies of the booklet version of the calendar. Encourage one another to begin praying through this special calendar each day.

10/40 Window Research Project— This assignment is intended to introduce the group to various aspects of the 10/40 Window, including its peoples, countries and religions. Research can be done during the week (most of the answers can be found on the internet or in an encyclopedia), and the findings discussed at the beginning of the next study session.

# Chapter One

## **Icebreaker**

If you could go to heaven and ask God one question, what would it be?

# Comments on the Reading:

"The last battle of the last war that eternal history will ever know centers on the fulfillment of the Great Commission." What are the implications of this for our lives?

"Scripture clearly warns us about two kinds of believers who will be living in the end-times. . . . Some of them were getting ready and others were not." What is the significance of our approaching the last days? Does this make our generation different from others? Should it affect our priorities?

"In the first century after Christ there were 400 unbelievers for every one believer. Today there are only 10 unbelievers for every one believer." Is there any reason why the world should remain unevanglized? What are some of the obstacles, and how can they be overcome?

# Scripture Close-up

Read Acts 26:17-18. What is the context? What are the obvious implications?

### **Breakout Group Assignment**

What are five priority things we should be doing now as followers of Jesus that we cannot do after we die, or after Christ returns? Rank them, then report back to the group.

### Praying Through the Window

Use the scriptural prayer guide in the 10/40 Window Prayer Calendar (p. 6 in the booklet) to pray for today's assigned unreached ethnic group.

#### 10/40 Window Research Project— Choose One

What country has the largest population of Muslims? What mission organizations are broadcasting into the 10/40 Window? How many Hindu caste groups are there in South Asia?

# Chapter Two

## **Icebreaker**

If you were living in Nazi Germany, what would you do as a follower of Christ?

# Comments on the Reading:

"The sign Jesus left his disciples was the fulfillment of the Great Commission. It was like a measuring stick that would let us know how close we were to the end." Why is the fulfillment of the Great Commission the most important sign of the end-times?

"During WWII the entire country mobilized for war because they understood what was at stake. Every industry, every scrap of metal, every skill was subject to the urgency of the cause." How was the situation of WWII similar to the situation we are faced with today in the Great Commission? Do our lives reflect the reality of this war?

"As soldiers under a heavenly commission, we have an obligation to stay focused on our Commander's objectives. Can you imagine an officer in the heat of battle suddenly forgetting who he is, where he is, and what he's supposed to be doing?" If Jesus is our Commander in Chief, how should that change our perspective on life? Will we be called into account for how we served under his command?

# **Scripture Close-up**

Read Matthew 24:14 and 2 Peter 3:11-12. What is the relationship between these two verses? What is the implication if we are disobedient?

#### **Breakout Group Assignment**

Look at Hebrews 11. What are the top three characteristics of those in God's Hall of Faith? Report back to the group.

**Praying Through the Window**— Use the 10/40 Window Prayer Calendar.

### 10/40 Window Research Project

What are the largest Muslim, Hindu and Buddhist peoples in the world?

# Chapter Three

## **Icebreaker**

If you could change one thing about yourself, what would it be?

# Comments on the Reading:

"If the entire reason we're here on this planet is to be developed for eternity, then everything that happens to us can be seen in this incredible light. We can truly be joyful and thankful in every circumstance, because we understand God's purpose behind it all." In what ways should an eternal perspective affect our priorities? Our worldview? Our attitudes?

"Seeing the world through heaven's eyes compels us to change everything about ourselves: our prayer life, our concern for others, our sinful habits, and who we choose to admire." *In what ways does this world compete with the eternal perspective? How can we keep from being blinded and distracted?* 

"Billions today are being held captive by a strongman that makes Adolph Hitler look like a schoolyard bully." What should be our response to the spiritual holocaust taking place in our world? Do our lives reflect this reality?

#### Scripture Close-up

Read 2 Cor. 4:16-18 and 12:9-10. How does God use suffering and personal sacrifice to bring him glory? Why is the eternal perspective so important to understanding our weaknesses?

#### **Breakout Group Assignment**

What are the top five things in our lives that we cannot change? What should be our response to these unchangeable things? Report back to the group.

Praying Through the Window— Use the 10/40 Window Prayer Calendar.

#### 10/40 Window Research Project

What are the Five Pillars of Islam?

# Chapter Four

## **Icebreaker**

What is the most dangerous situation you have ever been in?

# Comments on the Reading:

"To be sure, the courage to give your life for something doesn't prove what you believe, only that you do believe it. . . . Being willing to give your life for the gospel is a requirement for carrying its message." Why does Jesus ask such a high commitment from his followers? Why is it not acceptable to just be an ordinary, quiet, lukewarm Christian?

"In this Satanic controlled world, the real dangers to enduring faith are not persecution or martyrdom, but the subtleties of comfortable Christianity that keep our eyes focused on temporal concerns and fleeting desires." How can living in the "free-world" be more spiritually dangerous than living in closed countries like China and Sudan? What is the cure for shallow Christianity?

"If you don't know Jesus as your savior, then you are in darkness and under the power of Satan. If you do know Jesus, then you've been rescued. You're on board the ship. But it's not a cruise line. It's a rescue ship and a battleship, and the moment you're on board you are called to service."

Does the Church today reflect the reality of the war we are engaged in? Are we effectively equipping people to rescue others—as many as possible before the Lord returns?

### Scripture Close-up

Read Numbers 13:30-33. What are the giants confronting the Church today? Who are the Calebs of our generation?

#### **Breakout Group Assignment**

What are the six most spiritually dangerous influences in our society? How can we protect ourselves from them? Report back to the group.

**Praying Through the Window**— Use the 10/40 Window Prayer Calendar.

### 10/40 Window Research Project

What are the four noble truths of Buddhism?

# Chapter Five

## **Icebreaker**

If you were given a million dollars, what would you do with it?

# Comments on the Reading:

"Jesus didn't automatically sign up every recruit that came his way. The first thing he confronted people with was lifestyle. When the rich man came to Jesus, hoping to assert his righteousness, the Savior pointed to his bank account." What can you tell about a person from their spending habits? How can money get in the way with following Jesus?

"From trying to be the greatest, to simply loving and caring for one another, the Holy Spirit's power had so changed the disciple's hearts, they could no longer live for themselves or remain self-absorbed in their own survival." What is the relationship between greed and fear? How does the Holy Spirit set us free from this part of our sinful nature? What is the evidence of this?

"As a committed disciple of Jesus, you will feel compelled to appropriate your wealth to the command of Christ for the advancement of his Kingdom. So beware of those who would tell you otherwise." How can we organize our lives so that we can give the very most to God's purposes in this generation? What should be our number one priority in our spending? Have we surrendered our lifestyle to the lordship of Christ?

### Scripture Close-up

Read Acts 4:32 and Luke 12:32-34. Is this teaching of Christ a reality in our lives today? What might the Church look like if we took this seriously?

#### **Breakout Group Assignment**

Find eight areas where we could cut back in our spending and make sacrifices in order to give more to the Great Commission. Add up the savings and report back to the group.

Praying Through the Window— Use the 10/40 Window Prayer Calendar.

#### 10/40 Window Research Project

What are the five major divisions of the Hindu caste system?

# Chapter Six

## **Icebreaker**

What is the most awful place you have ever been in?

# Comments on the Reading:

"According to the Author of our salvation, eternity is settled in this lifetime. There is a sifting out that is taking place all over the world. There is no middle ground. You're either in Christ, or under Satan's power." Are we living as though eternity is on the line for those who don't know Jesus as their Savior? How compelling is this reality to us?

"When you compare light with darkness, hope against despair, truth with deception—there is no comparison. The religions of the world are a testimony to man's perversity and complete ignorance apart from God." What is the difference between Christianity and the world's religions? Why does our faith compel us to change people's minds about what they believe? Why is a correct understanding of God so important?

"To look at our concern for the 2.7 billion least evangelized of the 10/40 Window, I would say we need to hear the message of hell at least one more time. And we need to really take it in this time." How might it affect our lives and the priorities of the Church if we had a proper understanding of hell? Are we truly doing all we can to reach those who have never heard?

### Scripture Close-up

Read Matthew 5:29-30 and Hebrews 10:26-27. Why does Scripture speak again and again of God's wrath? Have we ignored this aspect of who God is? What are the implications of this ignorance?

#### **Breakout Group Assignment**

Write a description of what hell is like with at least five analogies or characteristics, and end with a challenge to believers. Report back to the group.

Praying Through the Window— Use the 10/40 Window Prayer Calendar.

#### 10/40 Window Research Project

What are the differences between the Shiites and the Sunnis in Islam?

# Chapter Seven

## **Icebreaker**

What image comes to your mind when you think about the Devil?

# Comments on the Reading:

"We have an enemy who fears the believers of this generation more than any other in history. He wants them struck down and neutralized, arrested with fear and content with insignificance. He will stop at nothing to prevent your participation in his undoing." Why is Satan working overtime to keep this generation of believers distracted? To what extent has he succeeded?

"We need to understand who we are to the enemy. Our disobedience is imperative to their survival. If we forget this, we will radically underestimate the incredible efforts underway to keep us out of the Great Commission." What are some of Satan's best strategies and deceptions that keep believers away from finishing the task? How can we protect ourselves and take the offensive?

"There is only one program, one agenda, one vision that should occupy our priority concern as a Church and that is the thorough evangelization of the *entire* world as quickly and efficiently as Providence allows." How do our plans fit in with God's plan for this generation? How can we be sure we are staying on course with His agenda? How can we tell if our desires and plans are being dictated to us by the world?

# **Scripture Close-up**

Read Ephesians 6:10-13. Why are these spiritual powers struggling against us? How seriously do we take the war we are engaged in?

#### **Breakout Group Assignment**

Take a seat at the boardroom of hell, and design a strategy to keep your church far away from the Great Commission. Report back to the group.

**Praying Through the Window**— Use the 10/40 Window Prayer Calendar.

### 10/40 Window Research Project

What are the three main branches of Buddhism and what are their distinctives in belief and practice?

# Chapter Eight

## **Icebreaker**

If you knew Jesus was coming again sometime in the next year, what would you do differently? How about in the next ten years?

# Comments on the Reading:

"For evangelicals alive during the Sixties it seemed as though the world was on its way to meltdown. . . . But the "end" was still decades away. There was still more to come on God's timetable." Why did Jesus not return yesterday? Have we become apathetic about the Second Coming with all the false predictions made in each generation? Have we learned any lessons?

"There is nothing more wicked in the sight of heaven than coldhearted religious piety. Is this happening today? Is it on the increase? I would find out if I were living near the end." How do we keep the Church from becoming an inward-focused club? What are some of the signs of decadence and decay? Why should we be so concerned about this as believers?

"The enemy wants you distracted from your priority and focused instead on mere survival. He wants you beaten down, driven back, and running the other way until you collapse. He wants you sucked into his trap." What are some of the traps the enemy has set for us? How can we move beyond mere survival to an all-consuming passion for God's purposes in this generation?

#### Scripture Close-up

Read 2 Timothy 3:1-5. What does it mean to have a form of godliness but denying its power? How can we identify false teachers and their theology?

#### **Breakout Group Assignment**

Identify the top five developments in our world today that are characteristics of the end-times. Report back to the group.

**Praying Through the Window**— Use the 10/40 Window Prayer Calendar.

### 10/40 Window Research Project

What gods make up the "Hindu trinity"? How are they different from one another?

# Chapter Nine

## **Icebreaker**

What do you consider to be your greatest strength and your greatest weakness?

# Comments on the Reading:

"All other prophecy in the Bible and all of God's activity on this planet centers on the fulfillment of this central promise: through Abraham and his offspring, all peoples on earth will be blessed." Why does the Bible begin with prophecy? How are we part of the fulfillment of this promise? Could this 4,000-year-old prophecy be fulfilled in our generation?

"If Abraham was willing to give up his secure future and venture out, God promised to lead him to a special place where He would use him very powerfully." Why does God require us to take steps of faith? Why doesn't he give us all the details at once? What are some of our comfort-zones that we don't like to give up, and what happens when we give in to them and give way to fear?

"A life of blessing begins with finding out what God wants done and making yourself available to do it. . . . Today there are 2.7 billion people with little or no access to the gospel. Two thousand ethnic groups are still waiting. Are we going to be a blessing to them?" What is God up to in our generation and how can we be a part? What can we expect to happen in our lives and in our church when we take the initiative in obedience to His mission?

#### Scripture Close-up

Read Luke 6:20-26. What is the relationship between this passage and the fulfillment of the Great Commission?

# **Breakout Group Assignment**

List the blessings God has given to your family, church and nation. How can they be used for the Great Commission? Report back to the group.

Praying Through the Window— Use the 10/40 Window Prayer Calendar.

#### 10/40 Window Research Project

What does the Koran say about Jesus?

# Chapter Ten

## **Icebreaker**

If you could choose to live anywhere in the world today, where would it be, and why?

# Comments on the Reading:

"There is something authentic about Christianity that is being persecuted. Scripture tells us it's *impossible* to live a godly life without being persecuted (2 Tim. 3:12). There's something wrong when the Devil isn't bothered by what you're doing." As Christians, what should be our response to the persecution of our faith? In what ways do we compromise with the world to avoid persecution? What happens when we do this?

"The reason we have freedom is to work hard for those who do not. The reason we have wealth, influence and power is to reach those whom no one else can. We have no excuse, and there is no reason why we too can't join the fellowship of His suffering." How should we be living in light of our Body's suffering? Are we making the most of our freedom, or could we do more? What do you suggest as practical steps we should take?

"Sometimes I wonder who the mature Christians really are—the new ones who can't be stopped, or the old ones who can't be started." What happens to us when we stop taking Jesus seriously and settle for shallow Christianity? How do we avoid this fate? What is the hallmark of authentic discipleship?

#### Scripture Close-up

Read Matthew 25:31-46. How is our response to the suffering Church a true sign of where our faith is? Why is this so serious to Jesus?

#### **Breakout Group Assignment**

Make two columns and list the greatest dangers of living in the free world, as well as the benefits and responsibilities. Report back to the group.

**Praying Through the Window**— Use the 10/40 Window Prayer Calendar.

#### 10/40 Window Research Project

What are the top five countries imprisoning Christians for their faith?

# Chapter Eleven

## **Icebreaker**

If you were the leader of a cause to change something in this world, what would it be, and why?

# Comments on the Reading:

"Like it or not, following Jesus is signing up to fight in a heavenly invasion of Satan's kingdom. Becoming a Christian is not a matter of signing up for goodies in heaven. If we tell people that's all there is to it, we cripple their understanding of God's Kingdom." As followers of Jesus, what is our mission? What are we being discipled to do and to be? Are we making progress in the Kingdom's training program? Are we even enrolled?

"Effective discipleship helps us make the connection between what we know we ought to do and actually doing it. If I only teach someone what they're supposed to do and never show them how, I have just guaranteed that person will get discouraged and give up." How did Jesus make disciples? Are we following his example today? How would you rate your own discipleship?

"Being used mightily of the Lord begins with a corporate commitment to prayer and fasting for souls to be saved. The first disciples would not be distracted by anything else." How might we do better in training and equipping disciples to win others for Christ? If this is our primary mission, how are we doing? What distractions keep us from this eternal priority?

#### Scripture Close-up

Read Philippians 4:4-9. What characterized the life of Paul? What will it take for you to be able to say what he did in v. 9?

#### **Breakout Group Assignment**

Describe the ideal disciple of Jesus, including the elements of lifestyle, aspirations and character. Report back to the group.

**Praying Through the Window**— Use the 10/40 Window Prayer Calendar.

#### 10/40 Window Research Project

What is the basic principle behind Feng Shui as practiced by the Chinese?

# Chapter Twelve

## **Icebreaker**

How would you respond to the question God asked Solomon, "Ask for whatever you want me to give to you"? (2 Chronicles 1:7)

# Comments on the Reading:

"The temperature of our faith can be measured by the heat of our prayer life. Since God commands us to ask, seek and knock—to persevere and cry out, the matter is very simple. If we believe God, we will pray, and if we don't believe him, then we won't." How is prayer like a spiritual thermometer? On a scale of 1 to 10, how would you rate your prayer life?

"As far as we know, this is the only time in eternal history where intercessory prayer has significance. That makes it all the more important for us to prioritize this discipline in our lives. A million years from now you will not be able to pray for your lost relatives to be saved." How should we view prayer in the light of eternity? What distractions keep us from this eternal priority?

"One of the most courageous things you can do by faith is to take a portion of your busy schedule and give it to God. Rest assured, he will honor you. The Lord delights in making our lives a demonstration of his power." What changes could you make in your life to be more prayerful? How have you experienced God's grace in this area?

#### Scripture Close-up

Read 2 Cor. 1:8-11, Rom. 15:30-31 and Eph. 6:17-20. How important was prayer in the ministry of Paul? Do we need the prayers of one another to be effective for Christ?

# **Breakout Group Assignment**

Make a prayer list of ten priority areas we should be praying for one another on a daily basis. Report back to the group.

Praying Through the Window— Use the 10/40 Window Prayer Calendar.

#### 10/40 Window Research Project

Why is the Dome of the Rock so sacred to Muslims?

# Chapter Thirteen

## **Icebreaker**

Have you, or someone you know, had an encounter with an angel?

# Comments on the Reading:

"The Lord has given us the witness of Scripture and history for this very reason. They are a guide to our faith—to let us know what God is willing to do, so we can pray with confidence." Do we trust God for miracles today? What experiences have you had in your life with trusting God for the impossible? What keeps us from experiencing more of the supernatural?

"Satan and his forces are dug-in, so to speak, all over this planet. This is all they have and they are defending it with their very lives. They are divided up over every village, town, city and nation. Nothing is given up without a fight—not even the smallest community or neighborhood." Have you encountered resistance from the enemy in something you have attempted for the Lord? How should this reality lead us to pray for those in pioneer missionary work?

"Wherever we happen to be, or whatever our circumstances, we can see great works accomplished for the Lord simply by letting his Holy Spirit intercede powerfully through us." How is intercession different from other kinds of prayer? What has the Holy Spirit taught you about interceding for others?

### Scripture Close-up

Read Colossians 4:12-13 and 1 Tim 2:1-4. Was it necessary for Epaphrus to *wrestle* in prayer for the Colossians? What is the relationship between intercession and spiritual warfare?

# **Breakout Group Assignment**

Make a list of seven areas where Satan may try to attack missionaries on the frontlines. Prioritize them and report back to the group.

**Praying Through the Window**— Use the 10/40 Window Prayer Calendar.

#### 10/40 Window Research Project

How did the Japanese religion of Shintoism lead to emperor worship and contribute to their country's military conquests in World War II?

# Chapter Fourteen

## **Icebreaker**

Describe a time when you had to trust God for something, and how you grew from this experience.

# Comments on the Reading:

"As a man of faith, Elijah couldn't stand by and do nothing while a pagan rain god, Baal, took glory away from the Lord. So Elijah claimed the promises of God in prayer." What is the relationship between faith and God's glory? Why are people of faith compelled to act and take a stand? How have you used God's promises in your life to take a stand for His glory?

"When all is said and done, people of faith remain optimistic about their heavenly Father. They can't explain everything, but they refuse to doubt his goodness, compassion, love and mercy. They refuse to limit his capacity and awesome power." How do our attitudes affect our faith? Why is a proper view of God so important to our spiritual growth and our effectiveness for Him?

"Why does faith matter? Because people matter. Without exception, there is no other way for them to be rescued unless you and I proclaim the gospel with power. God is ready to give it to all who would ask for it." In what ways do we limit God from working more powerfully in our lives? How can we overcome this? Why do billions in our world remain unevangelized?

#### Scripture Close-up

Read Hebrews 11:32-40. What characterizes the life of faith? How do we measure up when compared with the biblical standard?

#### Breakout Group Assignment

What are five things that ought to be done to fulfill the Great Commission? And what keeps them from happening? Report back to the group.

**Praying Through the Window**— Use the 10/40 Window Prayer Calendar.

#### 10/40 Window Research Project

What are the common practices of West African sorcerers, and why are they so greatly feared and so highly paid?

# Chapter Fifteen

## **Icebreaker**

What is your favorite conspiracy theory?

# Comments on the Reading:

"Jesus has one objective and that is the fulfillment of the Great Commission. The enemy has one objective as well, and that is to stop it. All lies of the enemy, all false teaching, all developments in our world center around this conflict." How do you see the hand of God at work today to bring the Great Commission to completion? What is the enemy doing among the nations and in the Church to resist God's purposes?

"There is a kind of Christian fatalism which infects much of our thinking. But the Bible speaks directly against it. The Bible tells us specifically and emphatically that God does need us." What is so dangerous about Christian Fatalism? How do we avoid this trap? How prevalent are the attitudes of indifference and apathy among believers today?

"Millions have perished in lands of darkness, having never heard the gospel, even though the Christian church had the personnel, the funds, and the capacity to reach them." How have we excused ourselves in this generation from fulfilling the Great Commission? Is God to blame for our disobedience? Are you prepared to give an account for your involvement in this assignment? Is your church?

#### Scripture Close-up

Read Luke 6:46-49 and James 2:14-17. Why is obedience the evidence of true belief? How does indifference destroy our faith?

### **Breakout Group Assignment**

Look at several current events in the news today and show how these relate to the fulfillment of the Great Commission. Report back to the group.

**Praying Through the Window**— Use the 10/40 Window Prayer Calendar.

#### 10/40 Window Research Project

How many Sikhs are there in the world today and what do they believe?

# Chapter Sixteen

## **Icebreaker**

What has been your most memorable moment with God?

# Comments on the Reading:

"God in his wisdom. . . . has chosen the path of ups and downs, mountains and valleys, raging rivers and wooded forests. He has chosen the Journey and the Relationship." How would you describe your relationship with God? Is it dynamic or static? If you can have as much of God as you want, what things might keep you from going deeper in your walk?

"We must remember that Satan also has a plan for our lives! His plan consists basically of diversions, anything to keep us off course from the mission God has planned for us." How can we find out what God's mission is for our lives and how do we stay on course? What things do we know for certain that we should be doing? How can we keep the Great Commission central to our life-purpose?

"Whatever may be your current plans, however good your intentions may be, you must ask yourself and measure your plans by this standard: How will this thing I want to do contribute to bringing the gospel to those who have never heard?" How does your life measure up to this standard? What does it mean for our life-priorities that we have been called to a rescue operation? How should we be helping one another to stay accountable and to do more in reaching as many people as possible before the Lord returns?

#### Scripture Close-up

Read Matthew 6:25-34. What does it mean to seek first the Kingdom? How does the world succeed in reversing this biblical priority?

#### **Breakout Group Assignment**

Analyze the activities of your church and their effectiveness in fulfilling the Great Commission. Report back to the group.

**Praying Through the Window**— Use the 10/40 Window Prayer Calendar.

### 10/40 Window Research Project

What are the first and the last avatars of Vishnu in Hinduism?

# Chapter Seventeen

## **Icebreaker**

How many New Year's resolutions have you been able to keep?

# Comments on the Reading:

"Whatever you decide is best for you, one thing is for sure, the disciplines you practice each day will shape who you are and who you will become." What spiritual disciplines do you practice in your life? How have you benefited from this and how would you like to grow in this area? What are the dangers of a spiritually undisciplined life?

"If Jesus is Lord of my life, I cannot hold anything back from him, including my life itself. I must be prepared to give my body for the sake of the gospel." What kind of physical sacrifices are we willing to make for the Kingdom? How do we keep from being enslaved to "creature-comforts"? Why must we take up our cross daily to follow Jesus?

"The Lord's main objective for you right now is to maximize your potential in this final campaign. This is not the time for business as usual. This is a time for bold initiative to reach as many lost people as possible before our Lord returns." Why does God require us to take the initiative? Do we miss out sometimes on what God is doing because we are not more pro-active? What changes can we make in our lives, families and churches to ensure that we will give our absolute best in these final hours of the harvest?

### Scripture Close-up

Read John 4:27-38. What did Jesus want his disciples to learn from this encounter with the Samaritan women? Have we learned the lesson today?

# **Breakout Group Assignment**

Write a brief statement of faith and resolution that would be applicable to every Great Commission Christian alive today. Report back to the group.

**Praying Through the Window**— Use the 10/40 Window Prayer Calendar.

#### 10/40 Window Research Project

What does the Koran teach about Jesus in agreement with the Bible?

# Chapter Eighteen

## **Icebreaker**

How do you see yourself five years from now, and what will it take?

# Comments on the Reading:

"Thousands of unreached groups still await someone like you to take up their plight. While you can't reach them all, you can play a big part—the most important part of all. . . . Would you be willing to commit your life to praying for spiritual breakthroughs in these least-reached ethnic groups?" If you were a lost person living in an unreached group, how would you want someone to be praying for you? How many missionaries do you know who are working on the frontlines among unreached peoples? What responsibilities do you feel towards them, and how do you view your role in their effectiveness?

"The most exciting reality of our day is the feasibility of bringing the gospel to every people group and every village and every person in our generation. This has never happened before in history, but it could happen in your lifetime!" How has your life made a difference so far in the fulfillment of the Great Commission? Why should the cause of the Great Commission take precedent over our personal careers and individual agendas? Will we be held responsible for our involvement in this cause?

"The Lord is building an end-times army of believers from every continent and country. He is opening closed doors and pouring out his Holy Spirit upon the nations. The greatest soul-harvest in history is ripening all over the world. These are the most exciting times to be alive!" How do you want to look back on your stay here on earth from eternity?

#### Scripture Close-up

Read Rev. 3:14-19 and 5:6-14. What is the contrast between these two pictures? What does the Laodicean church not understand about God?

# **Individual Assignment**

Prayerfully ask God to show you five things which you can do with your life in the next ten years to help fulfill the Great Commission.

**Praying Through the Window**— Use the 10/40 Window Prayer Calendar.