

# bio

quench your thirst for life

## PARTICIPANT DISCUSSION GUIDE

A PROVOCATIVE SMALL GROUP SERIES  
USING SHORT FILMS

featuring teaching by Chip Ingram





# re

God is a God who specializes in “do-overs”.

*In this session we will take a look at the power of God to transform us.*

SESSION

1



WATCH THE VIDEO

re

### KEY VERSE

*I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. John 12:24 (NIV)*

### CHIP'S TEACHING – EPHESIANS 2:1-10

The following notes will help you follow along as Chip teaches that God is in the business of giving life and changing life.

#### OUR LIFE APART FROM CHRIST – Ephesians 2:1-3

*<sup>1</sup>As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, <sup>2</sup>in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. <sup>3</sup>All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath.*

#### WHAT GOD DID TO GIVE US LIFE IN CHRIST – Ephesians 2:4-6

*<sup>4</sup>But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, <sup>5</sup>made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. <sup>6</sup>And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus.*

#### THE WHY OF OUR SALVATION – Ephesians 2:7

*<sup>7</sup>in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.*

#### OUR PART IN SALVATION – Ephesians 2:8-9

*<sup>8</sup>For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— <sup>9</sup>not by works, so that no one can boast.*

#### WE ARE GOD'S MASTERPIECE – Ephesians 2:10

*<sup>10</sup>For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.*



## DISCUSSION AND BIBLE STUDY

Take a few minutes and talk about what you've learned from the film and from Chip. Here are a few questions to get the discussion going and get you into your Bibles.

**“Its not about what you do, it's about what you become.”**

- 1.** If you were playing scrabble and could pick one RE word or one ER word that best describes what God has done in your life, what word would it be? Why did you choose that word?
- 2.** Do you know someone who's life is a powerful picture of Christ's power to give us a "do-over"?
- 3.** From Ephesians 2:1-3, make a list of all the words or phrases that describe a person who is apart from Christ. Which of those words or phrases most stands out to you? Why?
- 4.** What words in verses 4-6 describe God's motive in giving us new life? What does it mean in verse 6 when Paul says that God has seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus? Also see Ephesians 1:3.
- 5.** In verse 10 Paul declares that we are God's workmanship. We are his masterpiece. What is one specific area where Christ has "changed" you?
- 6.** Paul is clear that our salvation is not by our performance or good works. What are some other passages that teach salvation apart from works? To get started, read Titus 3:5.

**LIVE IT OUT**

These ideas are a way for you to put into practice what you are learning. Give them a try!

1. Perhaps you have never experienced the kind of transformation talked about in this session. If not, go to living **ontheedge.org** and watch a short video from Chip that explains how you can take this life-changing step.
2. This week make a list of all the “re” words you can think of that describe what God has done in your life. Then, spend some time thanking God for the His work of transformation.

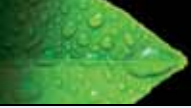


“God is all about the do-over.”

**DIG DEEPER**

The following suggestions are steps you could take outside of the group meeting to go a little deeper on this topic.

1. For further study on the topic of spiritual transformation, pick up the book or series titled *The Miracle of Life Change* by Chip Ingram.
2. Look up and read the following passages: Romans 12:1-2, 2 Peter 1:3-8 and Galatians 4:19. What do these passages teach us about spiritual transformation?
3. **Personal Growth Assignment** – Life change happens deepest and best when God speaks to you directly through His Word as the Holy Spirit makes its meaning and application clear to you. As you complete this assignment on the next page, watch how His Word comes alive at a new level.



<b>OBSERVE</b>	<b>INTERPRET</b>	<b>APPLY</b>
<p>Copy Ephesians 2:1-10 word for word from your Bible.</p>	<p>In your own words, write what this passage says. Write your thoughts verse by verse.</p>	<p>What specific step/ action do you need to take to respond to God's word to you?</p> <p><b>SHARE</b></p> <p>Who will you share what you learned from God in Ephesians 2:1-10 in the next six days?</p>



# reveal

Do you ever find it hard to know if God is really speaking to you? Are you perplexed sometimes when trying to discern God's will?

*During this session we will explore a surprising truth about how God speaks.*

SESSION

2



WATCH THE VIDEO

reveal

### KEY VERSES:

*It is the glory of God to conceal a matter,  
But the glory of kings is to search out a matter. Proverbs 25:2 (NASB)*

*You will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart. Jeremiah 29:13 (NASB)*

### CHIP'S TEACHING

The following notes will help you follow along as Chip teaches.

The God who created everything is pursuing you and wooing you and giving you clues about Himself.

For too many Christians the fuel in their soul is guilt and shame rather than love and relationship.

### OUR MOTIVATION – Proverbs 2:1-5 (NASB)

<sup>1</sup> My son, if you will receive my words	<i>Lift your voice for understanding;</i>
<i>And treasure my commandments within you,</i>	<sup>4</sup> <i>If you seek her as silver</i>
<sup>2</sup> <i>Make your ear attentive to wisdom,</i>	<i>And search for her as for hidden treasures;</i>
<i>Incline your heart to understanding;</i>	<sup>5</sup> <i>Then you will discern the fear of the LORD</i>
<sup>3</sup> <i>For if you cry for discernment,</i>	<i>And discover the knowledge of God.</i>

God speaks in lots of ways, but he primarily speaks through his Word.

### OUR MISSION – John 5:39 (NASB)

*You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; it is these that testify about Me;*

### OUR NEW PERSPECTIVE – Matthew 4:4 (NASB)

*... Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.*

To have the life that's really life (BIO) you must get "before God".



## DISCUSSION AND BIBLE STUDY

Take a few minutes and talk about what you've learned from the film and from Chip. Here are a few questions to get the discussion going and get you into your Bibles.

“It brings God glory to hide things and brings you glory to looking for them.”

1. How would you rank your spiritual hunger right now?  
1..... 5..... .10  
Complacent Passionate

2. What most stood out to you from the video? How did this video change your perspective and how should it change the way you search to know God?

3. Carefully read through Proverbs 2 again and circle every word that talks about our part in searching for God and His truth. Which word do you most need to put into practice?

4. Proverbs 2:5 says, “Then you will discern the fear of the LORD”.

And discover the knowledge of God. What does it mean to “fear the Lord”? Look up some other passages that talk about fearing the Lord.

5. Read Psalm 19:7-11 and Hebrews 4:12. From these passages, come up with a list of words that describe the benefit or value of God's Word.

6. What next step do you need to take to pursue the one who is pursuing you?


**LIVE IT OUT**

These ideas are a way for you to put into practice what you are learning. Give them a try!

1. This week memorize Jeremiah 29:13 *You will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart.* Then, spend time this week meditating on this wonderful invitation and promise from God.
2. Commit to getting “before God” 5 days this week. Read your Bible relationally. The young lady in the film said “God has an eternal and inexhaustible supply of mysteries... sometimes these mysteries are hidden in creation, sometimes in His Word, or embedded in every day life. He conceals them so we will search and find Him.” Focus this week on searching for the clues of God’s presence and truth.



“God has hidden enough in the universe that it will take a lifetime to search it out.”

**DIG DEEPER**

The following suggestions are steps you could take outside of the group meeting to go a little deeper on this topic.

1. Read Psalm 119:9-16. What are some words or phrases this passage uses to describe how we can search for God’s truth?
2. For further help in knowing God, consider the following resources
  - How to Study the Bible and Enjoy It (Skip Heitzig)
  - Face to Face: Praying the Scripture for Intimate Worship (Ken Boa)
3. Personal Growth Assignment – Life change happens deepest and best when God speaks to you directly through His Word as the Holy Spirit makes its meaning and application clear to you. As you complete this assignment on the next page, watch how His Word comes alive at a new level.



<b>OBSERVE</b>	<b>INTERPRET</b>	<b>APPLY</b>
<p>Copy Proverbs 2:1-5 word for word from your Bible.</p>	<p>In your own words, write what this passage says. Write your thoughts verse by verse.</p>	<p>What specific step/ action do you need to take to respond to God's word to you?</p> <p><b>SHARE</b></p> <p>Who will you share what you learned from God in Proverbs 2:1-5 in the next six days?</p>



# coffee

**It seems these days that the word “great” is used for everything.  
But, what defines true greatness?**

*During this session we'll discover the path to greatness. And, it just  
might surprise you.*

SESSION

3



WATCH THE VIDEO

coffee

### KEY VERSES:

*Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant,<sup>27</sup> and whoever wants to be first must be your slave. Matthew 20:26-27 (NIV)*

*For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted. Matthew 23:12 (NIV)*

### CHIP'S TEACHING

The following notes will help you follow along as Chip teaches.

What really makes relationships work is humility. Behind most relational conflict is pride.

### THE COMMUNITY – Philippians 2:1-2

*<sup>1</sup> If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, <sup>2</sup> then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose.*

### THE COMMAND – Philippians 2:3-4

*<sup>3</sup> Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. <sup>4</sup> Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.*

### THE SUPREME EXAMPLE – Philippians 2:5-8

*<sup>5</sup> Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus:*

*<sup>6</sup> Who, being in very nature God,  
did not consider equality with God something to be grasped,*

*<sup>7</sup> but made himself nothing,  
taking the very nature of a servant,  
being made in human likeness.*

*<sup>8</sup> And being found in appearance as a man,  
he humbled himself  
and became obedient to death—  
even death on a cross!*

## GOD'S VIEW OF HUMILITY—Philippians 2:9-11

<sup>9</sup>Therefore God exalted him to the highest place  
and gave him the name that is above every name,  
<sup>10</sup>that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
<sup>11</sup>and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

Jesus stepped down from heaven, not to lead, but to serve

“What really  
make  
relationships  
work is  
humility.”



## DISCUSSION AND BIBLE STUDY

Take a few minutes and talk about what you've learned from the film and from Chip. Here are a few questions to get the discussion going and get you into your Bibles.

1. What tugged at your heart when you watched the Coffee video?
2. In Philippians 2:1-2, circle all the words that describe the results of being “in Christ”. What does it mean to be “like-minded”?
3. In Philippians 2:3-4 Paul challenges us to “consider others better than yourselves”. From your every day life, what are some ways you could put this into practice? Get specific.
4. In Philippians 2:5-8 make a list of all the words and phrases that paint a picture of Jesus' humility. What are some other passages that demonstrate the humility of Jesus?
5. Read Philippians 2:5-11. What in this passage helps us see that Jesus was both fully God and fully man?
6. What would it look like for you to demonstrate humility... to your family? On the job? In your most difficult relationship? Where do you need to be a sleeve or a napkin? Get specific.



**LIVE IT OUT**

These ideas are a way for you to put into practice what you are learning. Give them a try!

1. Identify someone who has served as a napkin in your life. Reach out to them and thank them for serving you.
2. What person in your world could you serve by either being a sleeve or a napkin? Find a way to unselfishly serve that person this week.



**“ Instead of stepping up to lead, maybe we need to step down to serve. ”**

**DIG DEEPER**

The following suggestions are steps you could take outside of the group meeting to go a little deeper on this topic.

1. Read the following verses about “pride”. Proverbs 13:10, Proverbs 16:5, Proverbs 16:18, Romans 12:16, 1 Corinthians 13:4. Which of these verses most stand out to you? Why?
2. For a great picture of humble servanthood, study John 13:1-17. Underline any word or phrase that reveals that trait of a servant.
3. Personal Growth Assignment – Life change happens deepest and best when God speaks to you directly through His Word as the Holy Spirit makes its meaning and application clear to you. As you complete this assignment on the next page, watch how His Word comes alive at a new level.

<b>OBSERVE</b>	<b>INTERPRET</b>	<b>APPLY</b>
<p>Copy Philippians 2:1-11 word for word from your Bible.</p>	<p>In your own words, write what this passage says. Write your thoughts verse by verse.</p>	<p>What specific step/ action do you need to take to respond to God's word to you?</p>
		<p><b>SHARE</b></p> <p>Who will you share what you learned from God in Philippians 2:1-11 in the next six days?</p>



# jump

**Have you ever stopped to think about why God didn't take you to heaven the moment you became a Christian? He left you here for a reason.**

*During this session we will look at God's marching orders for every Christian.*

SESSION

4



WATCH THE VIDEO

jump

### KEY VERSE:

And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again. *2 Corinthians 5:15 (NIV)*

### CHIP'S TEACHING

The following notes will help you follow along as Chip teaches.

Would you describe yourself as a paratrooper or a skydiver? Are you on mission?

You don't really start to experience life (BIO) until you get on mission.

### OUR MOTIVATION – 2 Corinthians 5:14

<sup>14</sup> For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died.

Compels literally means "being hemmed in"

### OUR MISSION – 2 Corinthians 5:15

<sup>15</sup> And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.

### OUR NEW PERSPECTIVE – 2 Corinthians 5:16-17

<sup>16</sup> So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer.

<sup>17</sup> Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!  
*(continued on next page)*

## OUR ROLE – 2 Corinthians 5:18-21

<sup>18</sup> All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation:

The word reconcile literally means becoming friends again

<sup>19</sup> that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. <sup>20</sup> We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup> God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

“Are you a skydiver or a paratrooper?”



## DISCUSSION AND BIBLE STUDY

Take a few minutes and talk about what you've learned from the film and from Chip. Here' are a few questions to get the discussion going and get you into your Bibles.

1. What was it that Mike modeled or taught Danny that helped him move from being a skydiver to a paratrooper? And who might help you?
2. Paul says in verse 16 *So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view.* How has coming to Christ changed how you view people? What helps you see people the way Jesus sees them?
3. Verse 18 says that God reconciled us to himself. What are some other terms in scripture that describe our salvation (i.e. redemption and eternal life)?
4. God has given us the ministry of reconciliation. What are some other biblical words or passages that talk about us being “on mission”?
5. Why is the “ambassador” a good description of a Christian on mission?
6. What step could you take to move from being less skydiver and more paratrooper?



**LIVE IT OUT**

These ideas are a way for you to put into practice what you are learning. Give them a try!

1. Look for an opportunity this week to share with someone the story of how Jesus has changed your life.
2. Work hard this week to be conscious that you are an ambassador. Live with greater awareness that whether in the office, on the basketball court, driving your car, or having dinner with your family... you are representing Jesus.

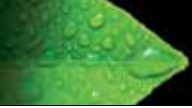
**DIG DEEPER**

The following suggestions are steps you could take outside of the group meeting to go a little deeper on this topic.

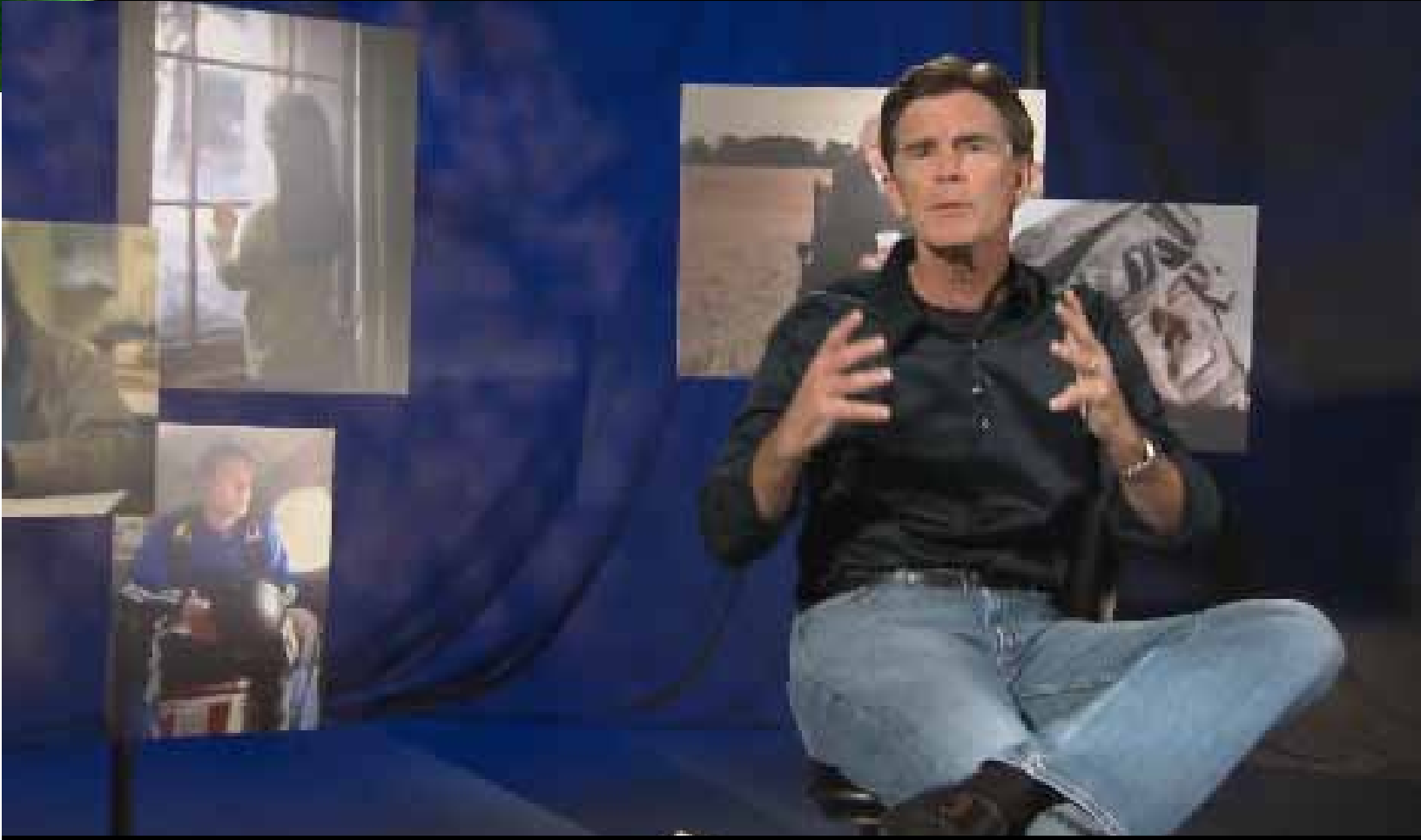
1. Read Acts 17:16-32. What are the evidences in this passage that Paul was a man who lived for a mission?
2. Study 1 Corinthians 9:19-27 and Acts 20:24. What principles and insights can you draw from these passages that can help you be "on mission"?
3. Personal Growth Assignment – Life change happens deepest and best when God speaks to you directly through His Word as the Holy Spirit makes its meaning and application clear to you. As you complete this assignment on the next page, watch how His Word comes alive at a new level.



**“Ambassadors are people “on mission” representing their king.”**



<b>OBSERVE</b>	<b>INTERPRET</b>	<b>APPLY</b>
<p>Copy 2 Corinthians 5:14-21 word for word from your Bible.</p>	<p>In your own words, write what this passage says. Write your thoughts verse by verse.</p>	<p>What specific step/ action do you need to take to respond to God's word to you?</p>
		<p><b>SHARE</b></p> <p>Who will you share what you learned from God in 2 Corinthians 5:14-21 in the next six days?</p>



# pathways

**There is a lot of clutter and white noise when it comes to knowing what's really important in the Christian life. Many Christians are unclear about what it means to be a disciple.**

*During this final session Chip will help us understand the destination of discipleship and the pathway for getting there.*

SESSION

5



WATCH THE VIDEO

# pathways

Romans 12 provides us a profile of what it looks like when the Spirit of God is maturing you.

- Surrendered to God (Romans 12:1)
- Separate from the world's values (Romans 12:2)
- Sober self-assessment (Romans 12:3-8)
- Serving in love (Romans 12:9-13)
- Supernaturally respond to evil (Romans 12:9-14)

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the father except through me." John 14:6 (NIV)

BIO is the biblical pathway to maturity.

- 1. "B"** – Get "Before God" daily  
The catalytic moment happens when you get "all in".

Being "all in" is the igniter of power in your life.

- 2. "I"** – Do life "In Community" weekly  
The catalytic moment happens when you take the initiative to take a risk and be vulnerable

This goes beyond simply getting in a small group. It is doing life together and experiencing authentic community.

- 3. "O"** – Be "On Mission" 24/7  
The catalytic moment happens when you experience God using you.

As His ambassadors, God has given us the assignment of being ministers of reconciliation.

"... I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly."  
John 10:10b (KJV)



## DISCUSSION AND BIBLE STUDY

Take a few minutes and talk about what you've learned from the film and from Chip. Here's a few questions to get the discussion going and get you into your Bibles.

“**BIO is the pathway to the destination of a Romans 12 Christian.**”

- 1.** Where are you on the bio pathway? Share your assessment of how you are doing at 1) getting before God 2) experiencing authentic community and 3) being on mission.
- 2.** Chip talked about the key to living “before God” is being “all in”. Read Romans 12:1 What does being “all in” mean to you?
- 3.** What fears or barriers keep you from being totally surrendered?
- 4.** Carefully read Romans 12:9-13. Which of the qualities of authentic community listed in this passage do you personally need to grow in?
- 5.** Read Ephesians 5:8-18. What truths from this passage are instructive for us living “on mission”?
- 6.** When you think about living “on mission”, what is you feel most passionate about and gifted to do in serving God?



**LIVE IT OUT**

These ideas are a way for you to put into practice what you are learning. Give them a try!

1. As you wrap up this series, what is your next step? Identify and commit to one step of obedience this next week in coming before God or getting in community or being on mission.
2. One good way to keep this series fresh in your own life is to start your own group to do the BIO series. Consider gathering a few friends who might benefit from these sessions.

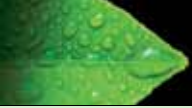


“When christians live like Christians there is life (BIO).”

**DIG DEEPER**

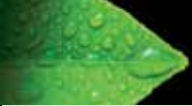
The following suggestions are steps you could take outside of the group meeting to go a little deeper on this topic.

1. Chip said that Romans 12 is the profile of a mature disciple. This week read Romans 12 several times let it percolate in your spirit.
2. Read the first 5 chapters of the book of Acts. Every time you see an example of getting Before God, put a “B”. Every time you see an example of being In Community, put a “C”. And, every time you see an example of being On Mission, put an “M”.
3. Personal Growth Assignment – Romans 12:1-8



<b>OBSERVE</b>	<b>INTERPRET</b>	<b>APPLY</b>
<p>Copy Romans 12:1-8 word for word from your Bible.</p>	<p>In your own words, write what this passage says. Write your thoughts verse by verse.</p>	<p>What specific step/ action do you need to take to respond to God's word to you?</p> <p><b>SHARE</b></p> <p>Who will you share what you learned from God in Romans 12:1-8 in the next six days?</p>

<b>GROUP ROSTER</b>		
<b>NAME</b>	<b>HOME PHONE</b>	<b>EMAIL</b>
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### PRAYER AND PRAISE

One of the most important things you can do in your group is to pray with and for each other. Write down each other's concerns here so you can remember to pray for these requests during the week!

Use the Follow Up box to record an answer to prayer or to write down how you might want to follow up with the person making the request. This could be a phone call, an e-mail or a card. Your personal concern will mean a lot!

DATE	PERSON	PRAYER REQUEST	FOLLOW UP