



serve

VENTURES

Little Dream House Mission Trip Devotional Guide

This Devotional guide is designed as a discussion starter to help your team process what they are experiencing on this trip in light of some examples from the Gospels. Read the scriptures together.

Review and then ask the questions. Don't be in a hurry, and encourage more than yes or no answers. Set the stage for God to work as you play "the Lords Advocate" with probing follow up questions. Have fun! Draw people out as you explore your feelings and observations about the Bible stories and how it relates to the story your group is creating on this trip. Close each session in prayer. Encourage several team members to pray out loud for your team, the day ahead, the people you come in contact with and your mission field back home.

Day 1 - Sent? Who Us? - Luke 10:1-18

Luke 10:1 After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go. 2 He told them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. 3 Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. 4 Do not take a purse or bag or sandals; and do not greet anyone on the road.

Luke 10:5 “When you enter a house, first say, ‘Peace to this house.’ 6 If a man of peace is there, your peace will rest on him; if not, it will return to you. 7 Stay in that house, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his wages. Do not move around from house to house.

Luke 10:8 “When you enter a town and are welcomed, eat what is set before you. 9 Heal the sick who are there and tell them, ‘The kingdom of God is near you.’ 10 But when you enter a town and are not welcomed, go into its streets and say, 11 ‘Even the dust of your town that sticks to our feet we wipe off against you. Yet be sure of this: The kingdom of God is near.’ 12 I tell you, it will be more bearable on that day for Sodom than for that town.....

Luke 10:16 “He who listens to you listens to me; he who rejects you rejects me; but he who rejects me rejects him who sent me.”

Luke 10:17 The seventy-two returned with joy and said, “Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name.”

Luke 10:18 He replied, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. 19 I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. 20 However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.”

- **How does this story relate to your team being in Pine Ridge?**
- **Why do you think Jesus sent them in pairs? How does this apply to your stay this week?**
- **How did Jesus instruct his disciples to interact with the community they were visiting? How does this apply to your stay this week?**
- **How can you say “peace” to this house this week?**
- **How is what you are doing this week letting people know that the Kingdom of God is near?**
- **How does reaching out to others help you rejoice that your name is written in Heaven?**
- **What is one lesson from this story that you would like to ask God to help you practice this week?**

PRAY: With a partner as Jesus sends you out this week. What do you need help with?

Day 2 - Strangers No More - Matt 25:31-45

Matt. 25:31 “But when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne. 32 “All the nations will be gathered before Him; and He will separate them from one another, as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats; 33 and He will put the sheep on His right, and the goats on the left.

Matt. 25:34 “Then the King will say to those on His right, ‘Come, you who are blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. 35 ‘For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me something to drink; I was a stranger, and you invited Me in; 36 naked, and you clothed Me; I was sick, and you visited Me; I was in prison, and you came to Me.’ 37 “Then the righteous will answer Him, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry, and feed You, or thirsty, and give You something to drink? 38 ‘And when did we see You a stranger, and invite You in, or naked, and clothe You? 39 ‘When did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?’ 40 “The King will answer and say to them, ‘Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of Mine, even the least of them, you did it to Me.’

Matt. 25:41 “Then He will also say to those on His left, ‘Depart from Me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels; 42 for I was hungry, and you gave Me nothing to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me nothing to drink; 43 I was a stranger, and you did not invite Me in; naked, and you did not clothe Me; sick, and in prison, and you did not visit Me.’ 44 “Then they themselves also will answer, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry, or thirsty, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not take care of You?’ 45 “Then He will answer them, ‘Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.’

- **Do you think this is a parable or prophecy?**
- **What do you think the main point of this story is?**
- **Is this meant to be taken literally or figuratively?**
- **What do you think Jesus means by “the least of these?” List people who might fall into “the least of these” category.**
- **How does this apply to your group being in Pine Ridge?**
- **Who is your team building a little dream house for?**
- **What other ways can you reach out to the people of Pine Ridge besides providing housing?**
- **How can you continue to apply this passage when you go home?**

PRAY: That you will see Jesus in the “least of these” today.

Day 3 - Do What You Can - Mark 14:3-9

Mark 14:3 While he was in Bethany, reclining at the table in the home of a man known as Simon the Leper, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume, made of pure nard. She broke the jar and poured the perfume on his head.

Mark 14:4 Some of those present were saying indignantly to one another, "Why this waste of perfume? 5 It could have been sold for more than a year's wages and the money given to the poor." And they rebuked her harshly.

Mark 14:6 "Leave her alone," said Jesus. "Why are you bothering her? She has done a beautiful thing to me. 7 The poor you will always have with you, and you can help them any time you want. But you will not always have me. 8 She did what she could. She poured perfume on my body beforehand to prepare for my burial. 9 I tell you the truth, wherever the gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will also be told, in memory of her."

- **If you could blow a year's wages with your friends, how would you do it?**
- **How does this story apply to your stay this week?**
- **Is the money and effort spent this week too extravagant?**
- **Is what you are doing this week done for the poor or for Jesus?**
- **Read the first sentence in verse 8. What does "doing what she/he could" mean to you? How can that be applied to you experience this week?**

Jesus said this event would be remembered forever.

- **What would you like to remember about this week?**
- **What would you like the people of Pine Ridge to remember?**
- **What would you like your church to remember?**

PRAY: That what you do this week will be a story worth telling to others

Day 4 - You Feed Them! - Mark 6:34-44

Mark 6:34 When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things.

Mark 6:35 By this time it was late in the day, so his disciples came to him. “This is a remote place,” they said, “and it’s already very late. 36 Send the people away so they can go to the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat.”

Mark 6:37 But he answered, “You give them something to eat.” They said to him, “That would take eight months of a man’s wages! Are we to go and spend that much on bread and give it to them to eat?”

Mark 6:38 “How many loaves do you have?” he asked. “Go and see.” When they found out, they said, “Five—and two fish.”

Mark 6:39 Then Jesus directed them to have all the people sit down in groups on the green grass. 40 So they sat down in groups of hundreds and fifties. 41 Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to his disciples to set before the people. He also divided the two fish among them all. 42 They all ate and were satisfied, 43 and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces of bread and fish. 44 The number of the men who had eaten was five thousand.

- **How do you feel when you see the needs of the people of Pine Ridge and White Clay?**
- **What do you think it means when it says, “Jesus had compassion on them?”**
- **How are the people on this reservation like sheep without a Shepherd?**
- **Why did Jesus tell the disciples, “YOU give them something to eat?”**
- **How do you feel and react about the overwhelming sense of need in Pine Ridge?**
- **What would you say to Jesus if He would ask your group to do something about it?**
- **When Jesus asked, “How many loaves do you have?” What was he really asking?**
- **How do the talents and possessions of your group members measure up to the level of need in Pine Ridge?**
 - **How could asking Jesus to bless your efforts here make a difference?**
 - **In what ways would you like Jesus to multiply what you have to offer the people of Pine Ridge?**

PRAY: That the loaves and fishes you offer this week will be blessed and multiplied

Day 5 - Thirsty? - John 4:4-28

John 4:4 Now he had to go through Samaria. 5 So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. 6 Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about the sixth hour.

John 4:7 When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, "Will you give me a drink?" 8 (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.)

John 4:9 The Samaritan woman said to him, "You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.)

John 4:10 Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water."

John 4:11 "Sir," the woman said, "you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? 12 Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his flocks and herds?"

John 4:13 Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, 14 but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

John 4:15 The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water so that I won't get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water."

John 4:16 He told her, "Go, call your husband and come back."

John 4:17 "I have no husband," she replied. Jesus said to her, "You are right when you say you have no husband. 18 The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true."

John 4:19 "Sir," the woman said, "I can see that you are a prophet. 20 Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem."

John 4:21 Jesus declared, "Believe me, woman, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. 22 You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. 23 Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. 24 God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth."

John 4:25 The woman said, "I know that Messiah" (called Christ) "is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us."

John 4:26 Then Jesus declared, "I who speak to you am he."

John 4:27 Just then his disciples returned and were surprised to find him talking with a woman. But no one asked, “What do you want?” or “Why are you talking with her?”

John 4:28 Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, 29 “Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Christ?” 30 They came out of the town and made their way toward him.

- **Why did this woman ask “why are you speaking to me” to Jesus in verse 9?**
- **In what ways have Native Americans been treated like Samaritans in the past? In the present?**
- **How is the gathering place in White Clay similar to the gathering place in this story?**
- **Were Jesus and this women talking about the same kind of water?**

Until a few months ago, White Clay sold more beer per-capita than any other place in the US!

- **How does this relate to Jesus discussion with this woman?**
- **Will changing the beer sale laws solve the problem?**
- **Why do you think the women left her jar?**
- **What might it take for people to leave their beverage containers behind?**
- **How could Jesus make a difference for the people of White Clay?**

When the women went back to town she shared with others about Jesus.

- **What would you like to share with people in your “town” when you go back home?**

PRAY: That Jesus will fill you and those you serve with Living Water.

Day 6 - Neighbors in Pine Ridge - Luke 10:25-37

Luke 10:25 On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” 26 “What is written in the Law?” he replied. “How do you read it?” 27 He answered: “ ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind’; and, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’” 28 “You have answered correctly,” Jesus replied. “Do this and you will live.” 29 But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” 30 In reply Jesus said: “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he fell into the hands of robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. 31 A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. 32 So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. 33 But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. 34 He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, took him to an inn and took care of him. 35 The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper. ‘Look after him,’ he said, ‘and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.’

Luke 10:36 “Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?” 37 The expert in the law replied, “The one who had mercy on him.” Jesus told him, “Go and do likewise.

- **How does this story relate to your involvement at Pine Ridge?**
- **The road between Jerusalem and Jericho was a notoriously dangerous route. Why didn't Jesus point this out in the story?**
- **Some might blame this man for traveling in such a dangerous place. Are there people who think that the people of Pine Ridge deserve what they get? How do you respond to people who feel that way?**
- **Who do you relate to the most in this story?**

The Priest

The Levite

The good Samaritan

The innkeeper

The robbers

The beaten man

- **How can your group bind the wounds of the people of Pine Ridge this week?**
- **Based on this parable and your experience here at Pine Ridge, who is your neighbor?**
- **How can you bind peoples wounds when you go home?**

PRAY: That Jesus will give you the courage to cross the street here and at home.

Day 7 - Now What? - Matt. 28:16

Matt. 28:16 Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. 17 When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. 18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Jesus gave this "Great Commission" to his followers after spending 3 years with them.

- **Was this Great Commission directed only to the 11 disciples?**
- **How has your experience at Pine Ridge affected you?**
- **What has Jesus taught you in this experience?**
- **How would you like to have this experience shape you as you go home?**
- **How could you start to fulfill the Great Commission while not on a mission trip?**
- **What do you need Jesus to "be with" you in as you go back to your everyday life?**

PRAY: That Jesus will be with you as you return to your Mission Field back home.