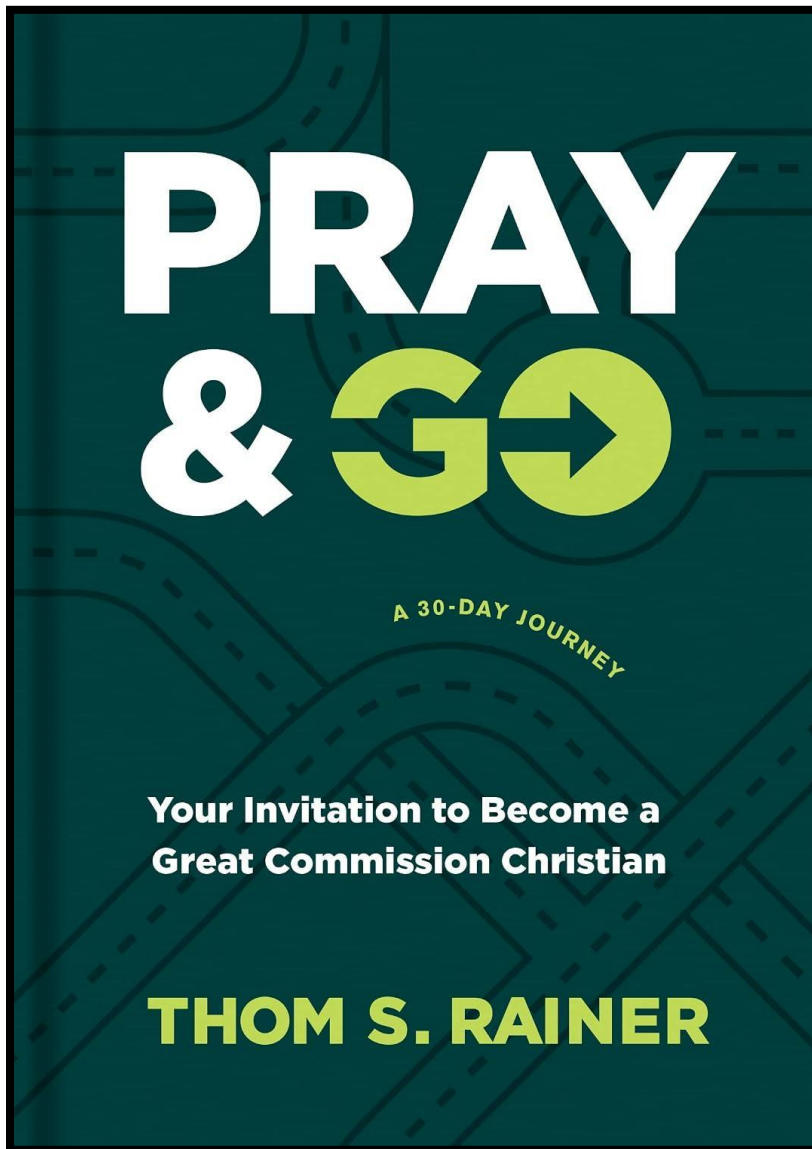




**Connecting the
Study to the
SHI-ROCK 5G
Vision**

**•GRACE •
•GATHER •
•GLOW •
•GROW •
•GO•**

Bible Study Discussion & Reflection Guide Lesson 1

**Please read up to page 21 of the book and
prepare your answers to the questions below.
WE WILL NOT READ THE BOOK IN CLASS**

1. THE BIG IDEA OF THE STUDY (pp. 2–4)

The study emphasizes that believers are designed to be bearers of the truth about Jesus and that the Great Commission is intended to be carried out primarily through the local church. It identifies six areas of church life—evangelism, discipleship, prayer, ministry, fellowship, and worship—and challenges churches to examine which area is weakest.

BIBLE STUDY QUESTIONS

Why do you think evangelism is often the weakest area in a healthy-looking church? (pp. 2–4)

Can a church have excellent worship, fellowship, ministry, and discipleship and still fail at the Great Commission? (pp. 2–4)

What are the dangers of becoming a church that is busy in the building but ineffective outside the building? (pp. 2–4)

What would change if we began measuring effectiveness by who we are reaching, not simply by who attends? (pp. 2–4)

How does this challenge the way we understand the GO in our 5G Vision? (pp. 2–4)

5G CONNECTION — GO: The study challenges the congregation to move from simply gathering people to preparing and sending people.

2. SATAN AND EVANGELISM (pp. 2–3)

The study identifies common excuses and barriers that keep Christians from sharing the gospel, including: “I don’t have time,” “I don’t want to offend people,” “I might get rejected,” “Evangelism is not my spiritual gift,” “That’s what we pay the pastor to do,” and “I don’t need to talk about Jesus; I’ll just show my love to others.”

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Which of these excuses do Christians most commonly use today? (pp. 2–3)

Which one have you heard most often? (pp. 2–3)

Is showing people love without talking about Jesus enough? Why or why not? (pp. 2–3)

Why is rejection such a powerful deterrent to evangelism? (pp. 2–3)

What happens when Christians assume evangelism is the pastor’s responsibility? (pp. 2–3)

5G CONNECTION — GO: The 5G Vision calls the congregation to see every believer as a participant in the Great Commission, not as a spectator waiting for the pastor to do the work.

3. THE NEW TESTAMENT CHRISTIAN AND EVANGELISM (pp. 3–4)

Read Acts 4:18–20. Peter and John are commanded not to speak about Jesus anymore. Their response demonstrates that witnessing flows from what they have seen and heard.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

What made Peter and John unwilling to remain silent? (pp. 3–4)

What does it mean to say, “We cannot stop telling”? (pp. 3–4)

What have you personally seen and heard God do? (pp. 3–4)

Why is personal testimony such a powerful evangelistic tool? (pp. 3–4)

What would happen if every SHI-ROCK member had one testimony they were prepared to share? (pp. 3–4)

5G CONNECTION — GLOW → GO: GLOW is not merely looking good inside the church. It is allowing the life of Christ in us to become visible outside the church. What glows must go.

4. THE JUMP-START PRINCIPLE (pp. 4–6)

The author uses the analogy of a car needing a jump-start. The church’s Great Commission focus may not require everything to be rebuilt; it may need to be restarted. The proposed approach centers on prayer, Scripture, and going out. **PRAY → GROW → GO**

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

What areas of church life may need a “jump-start”? (pp. 4–6)

Is the challenge a lack of resources, or could it be a renewed focus? (pp. 4–6)

What is the difference between starting over and restarting with renewed purpose? (pp. 4–6)

Why does the author put prayer before going? (pp. 4–6)

What happens when we GO without PRAYING? (pp. 4–6)

What happens when we PRAY but never GO? (pp. 4–6)

5G CONNECTION — PRAY → GROW → GO: Prayer prepares us, Scripture teaches us, and going puts faith into action.

5. THE 30-DAY CHALLENGE (pp. 5–7)

The proposed 30-day journey is intentionally practical. Participants are encouraged to pray for people, study Scripture, pray in front of homes, contact people, invite people to church, go into the community, and pray for families and homes.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Which part of the 30-day challenge would be easiest for you? (pp. 5–7)

Which would be hardest? (pp. 5–7)

Why is prayer for people different from simply praying for church programs? (pp. 5–7)

How can we turn prayer into intentional relationships? (pp. 5–7)

What would happen if every SHI-ROCK member intentionally prayed for five people? (pp. 5–7)

How could this become part of our iVillage strategy? (pp. 5–7)

5G CONNECTION — GO: The vision becomes behavior when prayer, relationships, invitations, service, and witness move beyond the sanctuary.

6. DAY 1 — PRAYING FOR A HEART WITH AN OUTWARD FOCUS (pp. 9–10)

The story describes a struggling church whose members began praying differently. Instead of remaining discouraged, they prayed for opportunities to reach people in their community. Over time, the church began reaching people with the gospel and discipling them.

KEY QUESTION

What happens when a church changes what it prays for?

What did the members initially see when they looked at their church? (pp. 9–10)

What did they begin seeing after they began praying? (pp. 9–10)

How can prayer change our perspective before it changes our circumstances? (pp. 9–10)

Are we praying primarily for people inside the church or people outside the church? (pp. 9–10)

What would an outward-focused prayer life look like at SHI-ROCK? (pp. 9–10)

7. PRAYING FOR YOURSELF TO BECOME A GREAT COMMISSION CHRISTIAN (pp. 11–14)

The study encourages prayer for a heart that prioritizes reaching others, open opportunities, courage, wisdom, the right words, servanthood, a receptive heart, and eyes that see the world differently.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Why does evangelism begin with the condition of our heart? (pp. 11–14)

Which prayer on this list do you most need to pray? (pp. 11–14)

What does it mean to have “eyes open to the world”? (pp. 11–14)

Are we asking God to bring people to church—or asking God to send us to people? (pp. 11–14)

What spiritual growth is necessary before we can effectively GO? (pp. 11–14)

5G CONNECTION — GRACE + GROW: Before God can use our hands, He must shape our hearts.

8. DAY 2 — “YOU WILL BE MY WITNESSES” (pp. 15–19)

Read Acts 1:8. The study emphasizes that Jesus’ words, “You will be my witnesses,” are presented as a command and that believers receive power from the Holy Spirit to become witnesses.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

What is the difference between being a church member and being a witness? (pp. 15–19)

Why is the Holy Spirit essential to the Great Commission? (pp. 15–19)

What does Acts 1:8 say about the movement of the gospel? (pp. 15–19)

Where is our “Jerusalem”? (pp. 18–19)

Who are the people closest to us who need to see and hear Jesus? (pp. 18–19)

What would it mean for SHI-ROCK to become a witnessing church? (pp. 15–19)

5G CONNECTION — GLOW → GO: We do not GO in our own power. We GO in the power of the Holy Spirit.

9. “START WHERE YOU ARE” (pp. 18–19)

The study emphasizes that Jesus told the disciples to begin where they were. The challenge is not necessarily to travel somewhere else; it is to become a witness right where God has already placed you.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Where has God already planted you? (pp. 18–19)

Who are the people you interact with every week? (pp. 18–19)

What neighborhoods surround our churches? (pp. 18–19)

What needs exist in those communities? (pp. 18–19)

How can our iVillages help us connect with people where they already live? (pp. 18–19)

What would happen if every member saw their workplace, neighborhood, school, family, and community as a mission field? (pp. 18–19)

5G CONNECTION — GO: GO does not always mean go somewhere else. Sometimes GO means go deeper into the place where God has already planted you.

10. DAY 3 — GETTING THE BODY MOVING (pp. 20–21)

Read 1 Corinthians 12:12–27. The study uses the image of the Body of Christ to emphasize that the church is one body with many parts and that every member has a function. The key idea is that the body must move.

Key Thought: We do not gather simply to sit. We gather to GROW, GLOW, and GO.

Discussion Questions

What happens to a body when one part refuses to function? (pp. 20–21)

What happens to a church when members refuse to serve? *(pp. 20–21)*

Do we sometimes expect the same people to do everything? *(pp. 20–21)*

What gifts are currently underutilized in our congregation? *(pp. 20–21)*

What does “every member moving” look like? *(pp. 20–21)*

How can iVillages help people discover and use their gifts? *(pp. 20–21)*

5G CONNECTION — GATHER + GROW + GO: Gathering is intended to form and mobilize the Body of Christ.

THE 5G MOVEMENT

- **GRACE** Changes Us.
- **GATHER** Connects Us.
- **GLOW** Reveals Christ Through Us.
- **GROW** Develops Us.
- **GO** Sends Us.

15. FINAL GROUP DISCUSSION

1. What is God saying to SHI-ROCK through this study? *(pp. 2–21)*

2. What is God saying to me personally? *(pp. 9–19)*

3. Where have we become inward-focused as a church? *(pp. 2–4, 9–10)*

4. What would it look like for SHI-ROCK to become an outward-focused church? *(pp. 9–10, 20)*

5. What does GO require from me personally? *(pp. 15–19)*

6. Who are the five people I am praying for right now? *(pp. 5–7)*

7. Where is my “Jerusalem”? *(p. 18)*

8. What gift has God given me that needs to start moving? *(pp. 20–21)*

9. What needs to change in our church so that every member becomes a participant in the Great Commission? *(pp. 2–4, 20–21)*

10. What is my next step? *(pp. 5–7, 18–21)*

CLOSING DECLARATION

GRACE • GATHER • GLOW • GROW • GO

We gather to grow □ We grow to glow.

We glow so others can see Christ □ We go because we have been sent.