

Living for Legacy **Living for Legacy.**

“A Life of Expansion” – Part 4

Pastor Dave Patterson

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USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures referenced in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to facilitate a discussion.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together.

While the questions are important, remember your group’s goal is not to get through the questions, but to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships. Use the discussion questions as you see fit, but emphasize the relationships.

Isaiah 54:2-3

“Enlarge your house; build an addition.

Spread out your home and spare no expense!

For you will soon be bursting at the seams.

Your descendants will occupy other nations
and resettle the ruined cities”

1 Chronicles 4:10 (NLT)

“Oh, that you would bless me and expand my territory! Please be with me in all that I do and keep me from all trouble and pain!” And God granted him his request.

John 4:35

Do you not say, ‘There are still four months and *then* comes the harvest’? Behold, I say to you, **lift up your eyes and look at the fields**, for they are already ripe for harvest!

“The vigorous, continual planting of new congregations is the single most crucial strategy for the numerical growth of the body of Christ in a city!

The second is the continual corporate renewal and revival of the existing churches. Nothing else—not crusades, outreach programs, parachurch ministries, or special events will have the consistent impact of dynamic, extensive church planting”

Timothy Keller

1. Start moving into new territory

Joshua 1:3

I will give you **every place where you set your foot**, as I promised Moses.

Possibilities for TFH:

- A regional Sports Complex
- Recording Studios
- A Film Studio
- A Park/with special needs playground/
- All Purpose Gymnasium for our community
- Mission Headquarters and admin offices
- TFH Bible College
- Another auditorium when this one reaches capacity 5 times on the weekends

2. Keep Bringing something for God to fill

2 Kings 4:3-5

And Elisha said, “Borrow as many empty jars as you can from your friends and neighbors. Then go into your house with your sons and shut the door behind you. Pour olive oil from your flask into the jars, setting each one aside when it is filled.”

So she did as she was told. Her sons kept bringing jars to her, and she filled one after another. Soon every container was full to the brim!

“Bring me another jar,” she said to one of her sons.

“There aren’t any more!” he told her. And then the olive oil stopped flowing.

3. Be willing and obedient with the abilities and talents you have now

Luke 5:4-10

When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, “**Now go out where it is deeper, and let down your nets to catch some fish.**”

“Master,” Simon replied, “we worked hard all last night and didn’t catch a thing. **But if you say so, I’ll let the nets down again.**” And this time their nets were so full of fish they began to tear! A shout for help brought their partners in the other boat, and soon both boats were filled with fish and on the verge of sinking.

When Simon Peter realized what had happened, he fell to his knees before Jesus and said, “Oh, Lord, please leave me—I’m such a sinful man. For he was awestruck by the number of fish they had caught, as were the others with him. His partners, James and John, the sons of Zebedee, were also amazed.

Philippians 2:13

for **it is God who works in you** to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.

Exodus 35:21

Then everyone came whose **heart was stirred**, and everyone whose **spirit was willing**, and they brought the LORD’s offering for the work of the tabernacle of meeting.

1 Chronicles 29:3-5 (NKJV)

Moreover, because **I have set my affection** on the house of my God, I have given to the house of my God, **over and above** all that I have prepared for the holy house...

“...Now then, who will follow my example and give offerings to the LORD today?” Then the family leaders, the leaders of the tribes of Israel, the generals and captains of the army, and the king’s administrative officers **all gave willingly**.

“We make a living by what we get but we make a life by what we give.”

Winston Churchill

TALK IT THROUGH

1. Have you ever taken a *significant* step (career, relationship, financial, ministry ...) that stretched you beyond comfort? What was the result of that stretching? Would you do it again?
2. Read together Isaiah 54:1-3 and the Timothy Keller quote (above). Why does God want us to live an expansive life? Who is it really about? What does He want us to avoid?
3. How would you rate yourself (no rating anyone else! ☺) in living an expansive life: 1) super expansive, 2) taking a risk or two, or, 3) help I'm stuck!?
4. Read Genesis 15:1-6. God told Abraham to "get out" of his tent and "look up" into the night sky. What is your tent, your isolated world, that God is inviting you to step out of? What is God inviting you to "look up" and "look out" at in your life?
5. Read Joshua 1:3 together. If you knew God would give you every place upon which your feet stepped, where would you start walking and why there?
6. Read 2 Kings 4:3-5 together. This story is a great example of what God does when we stretch out and ask Him to supernaturally fill the space created by our stepping out in faith. Taking a "risk" is hard for some of us who have a "pie" mentality (limited resources). The widow in 2 Kings 4 had a "river mentality" as she obeyed God in gathering jars. Do you identify more with the "pie" or the "river" mentality? How can we become more river-minded people?
7. In Luke 5:4-10, Peter allowed the Lord to use his talents and resources for His purposes. What is the "net" in your hand? What talents and resources has God given you right now? What does God want you to do with these resources?

Spend some time as a group and individually this week to seek God regarding these things.