



BECOMING A GLOBAL DISCIPLE

DISCUSSION GUIDE



Overview

Global discipleship begins with God's heart for the nations and takes shape through the life of the local church. This series invites believers to see the church as one global body in Christ, to receive from sisters and brothers across cultures, and to respond through prayer, learning, friendship, collaboration, and faithful local presence. Our series features insights from global leaders and practitioners who are deeply committed to fostering a wider, more inclusive understanding of Christian faith and mission.

Episode Summaries



Episode 1

How Global Is Your Faith?

Michael Oh invites us to ask whether our faith has become too narrow, shaped mostly by our own culture and experience.



Episode 2

Global Church & Global Mission

Pearl Ganta and Desmond Henry help us see the church's diversity and face the unfinished task of mission with honesty and urgency.



Episode 3

Global Prayer & Global Learning

Janet Sewell and Joe Handley call us to pray for the nations and learn from the global church with humility.



Episode 4

Global Friendship & Global Collaboration

Nana-Yaw and Jurie Kriel show that cross-cultural friendship and partnership are expressions of Christian unity.



Episode 5

How Local Is Your Faith?

Jason Watson brings the series home by showing that global and local discipleship belong together.

Meet the Presenters



Michael Oh

Global Executive Director,
Lausanne Movement



Pearl Ganta

Director,
Ur Vision Communications



Desmond Henry

International Director,
Global Network of Evangelists



Janet Sewell

Director of Gathering Support,
Lausanne Movement



Joe Handley

President,
A3



Nana-Yaw Offei Awuku

Global Director for Generations,
Lausanne Movement



Jurie Kriel

CEO & Founder,
NXT Move



Jason Watson

Director of Content,
Lausanne Movement

Watch the Videos



Episode 1



Episode 2



Episode 3



Episode 4



Episode 5



Download the Video Files



Explore the Devotional Plans



How Global Is Your Faith?



Meet Your Global Family



God's Great Global Mission



Pray Beyond Your World



Learning from the Global Church



Friends Across Borders



Better Together in Mission



How Local Is Your Faith?



Episode 1: How Global Is Your Faith?

Presenter: Michael Oh

Michael Oh opens the series by asking a searching question: *How global is your faith?* He challenges believers to consider whether their faith has grown deep spiritually but remains narrow in scope. Rooted in God's global purpose to unite people from every nation in Christ, this teaching invites Christians into a broader, more connected discipleship—one marked by humility, shared dependence, and intentional engagement with the global body of Christ.

Icebreaker: When you hear the phrase "the global church," what images, experiences, or emotions come to mind?

Discussion Questions

1. What part of this talk stood out to you most, and why?
2. Michael says many of us live globally connected lives, but often practice our faith in a much narrower way. Where do you see that happening in everyday Christian life?
3. What do you think he means by having a faith that is "*a mile deep but only an inch wide*"? Where might that show up in a church or in a person's walk with Jesus?
4. How does the picture of the church as one body in 1 Corinthians 12 help us see our need to engage with other believers from other places, cultures, and backgrounds?
5. Michael says one of the most dangerous things a Christian can say is, "*I don't need you.*" Why do you think that attitude is so damaging?
6. Read some of the scripture verses referenced below. How does God's heart for the nations, from Genesis to Revelation, change the way you think about discipleship, not just mission?
7. As you consider the global practices Michael highlights—learning, prayer, friendship, collaboration, and local rootedness—which one do you sense God inviting you to grow in right now?
8. What is one simple, realistic step you could take this week or this month to begin to grow in your global discipleship?

Scripture References

1 Corinthians 12:12–27

Genesis 12:1–3

Revelation 7:9–11

John 3:16

Matthew 28:19–20

Episode 2: Global Church

Presenter: Pearl Ganta

Pearl Ganta invites believers to expand their vision of the church beyond their immediate context. Highlighting the global reality of Christianity today, she encourages the practice of learning about the global church as a vital part of discipleship. This session calls Christians to a posture of humility and curiosity, growing in awareness of and appreciation for the wider body of Christ.

Icebreaker: In what ways have you seen God was at work beyond your own church, city, or country? Has it challenged or encouraged you in your faith?

Discussion Questions

1. What stood out to you most from Pearl's talk, and why?
2. Pearl says many Christians picture the "average Christian" as someone from their own culture or background. Why do you think that happens so easily?
3. How does seeing the church as a global family change the way we think about our own local church?
4. Pearl warns that if we do not understand the global body of Christ, we cannot love it, learn from it, or serve it well. Which of those three words—love, learn, or serve—stands out most to you right now, and why?
5. Read some of the Scriptures Pearl mentioned (e.g Revelation 7:9 or Ephesians 2:19). What do they reveal about God's vision for his people?
6. Pearl encourages us to become curious learners about the global church and highlights resources like *Operation World* and the *God on the Move Podcast*. As a group, take a few minutes to explore one of these resources. What stands out to you, and how might it help you grow in global awareness and prayer?
7. What do you think Christians in your own unique setting could learn from believers in other parts of the world?
8. What is one small step you could take this week to learn more about the church in another country and let that shape how you pray?

Scripture References

Ephesians 2:19

Revelation 7:9

John 17:21

Revelation 5:9

Episode 2: Global Mission

Presenter: Desmond Henry

Desmond Henry reminds us that while the gospel has gone far, the mission of Christ is not yet finished. He calls believers and churches to celebrate what God has done, face the unfinished task honestly, and respond with renewed prayer, confidence, generosity, and everyday obedience in sharing the good news.

Icebreaker: Who first shared the gospel with you, or played a key role in your journey to faith?

Discussion Questions

1. What stood out to you most from Desmond's talk, and why?
2. Desmond begins his talk by asking a series of searching questions. Which of these questions challenges you most right now—and why? Take a moment to reflect on them together:
 - Have we become too comfortable in our faith?
 - Have we slipped into maintenance mode rather than living on mission?
 - Are we too busy with other things to prioritize God's mission?
 - Have we assumed that mission is for someone else rather than for us?
 - Have we delegated what Jesus entrusted to every believer?
3. Read Romans 10:13–15 together. What stands out to you, and what does it reveal about our role in sharing the gospel?
4. Desmond says mission is not only for a select few, but an invitation for every follower of Jesus. What helps ordinary believers believe that, and what often holds them back?
5. How does the reality that many unreached people now live in our cities, neighborhoods, workplaces, and schools reshape the way we think about mission?
6. Desmond calls us to pray, learn, live like we're sent, give strategically, and go as God leads. Which of those feels most immediate or realistic for you right now?
7. What is one practical way you can respond this month—through prayer, hospitality, giving, gospel conversations, or learning more about the least reached?

Scripture References

Romans 10:13-15

Matthew 24:14

Matthew 28:19-20

Episode 3: Global Prayer

Presenter: Janet Sewell

Janet Sewell invites believers to expand their prayer life beyond personal and local concerns to reflect God's heart for the nations. She shows that prayer is both deeply personal and profoundly global, calling Christians to intercede for the church, the lost, and the world. This session invites believers into a wider, more intentional life of prayer shaped by God's mission.

Icebreaker: What usually shapes the things you pray about most during the week?

Discussion Questions

1. What stood out to you most from Janet's talk, and why?
2. Janet highlights three groups we are called to pray for: God's people, the lost, and those in authority. Let's take a few moments to reflect on each one together:
 - God's people (*John 17:11, 15, 20-23*) — Where do you see the need for encouragement, unity, or strength in the global church?
 - The lost (*Matthew 9:37-38*) — Who are the people or places God is bringing to your attention that do not yet know Christ?
 - Those in authority (*1 Timothy 2:1-2*) — How might praying for leaders (locally or globally) shape your perspective or trust in God?
3. Janet points to practical tools for global prayer, including the Operation World app, Lausanne's Pray for the World email, the news as a prayer prompt, and prayer initiatives like 24-7 Prayer or the International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church. As a group, take a few minutes to explore one of these resources. What stands out to you, and how might it help you grow in global awareness and prayer?
4. What do you think it would do in a church or small group if global prayer became a more regular part of its life together?
5. What is one practical change you could make this week to include the world more intentionally in your prayers?



Scripture References

Isaiah 56:7

Genesis 12:1-3

Matthew 6:9-11

Ephesians 6:18

John 17:11, 15, 20-23

Matthew 9:37-38

1 Timothy 2:1-2

Episode 3: Global Learning

Presenter: Joe Handley

Joe Handley encourages believers to listen to and to grow in the practice of global learning, an essential part of discipleship. He shows that no one culture sees the full picture of the gospel and invites Christians into a posture of humility, mutuality, and teachability. This session calls believers to grow by receiving the gifts and insights of the wider body of Christ.

Icebreaker: Has another Christian from a different background, culture, or country ever helped you see God in a new way?

Discussion Questions

1. What stood out to you most from Joe's talk, and why?
2. Joe says one of our great temptations is to assume that the way we have experienced God is the only way he works. Why is that such an easy trap to fall into?
3. What challenged you about the idea that our culture can create blind spots in how we read Scripture, do church, or think about discipleship?
4. Read Acts 15:1–29 together. What do you notice about the humility, listening, and shared discernment in this passage?
5. Joe says no culture holds the full picture of the gospel. How does that call us to greater humility in the way we learn from other believers?
6. What stood out to you in Joe's examples of learning from Christians in Africa, Asia, or the persecuted church? What might believers in your context especially need to receive from the global church?
7. Joe's practical suggestions include reading books or messages from other cultures, building friendships across cultures, welcoming global voices into our communities, and praying regularly for the global church. Which of these feels most accessible for you right now—and what first step could you take?

Scripture References

Acts 15:1-29

1 Corinthians 12:12-27

Episode 4: Global Friendship

Presenter: Nana-Yaw Offei Awuku

Nana-Yaw Offei Awuku calls believers to move beyond cultural and relational silos into genuine friendship within the global church. Rooted in Christ's vision of one new humanity, this teaching challenges Christians to cross cultural boundaries in love and to see friendship as an essential part of discipleship and witness. This session invites believers into deeper relationships marked by humility, hospitality, and shared life.

Icebreaker: Have you ever built a meaningful friendship with someone from a different culture or background? What helped that friendship grow?

Discussion Questions

1. What stood out to you most from Nana-Yaw's talk, and why?
2. Nana-Yaw says many churches remain within cultural comfort zones. Why can crossing those lines feel difficult in everyday church life?
3. Read Ephesians 2:15-19 together. What do you notice about the kind of people and family Christ is creating—and how does that challenge the way we relate to one another?
4. What challenged you about Nana-Yaw's picture of the church as a global family rather than a collection of separate groups?
5. How does friendship across cultures strengthen both the unity of the church and our witness to the world?
6. Nana-Yaw says global friendship is part of local mission and our discipleship. What do you think that looks like in practice where you live?
7. Nana-Yaw encourages us to start where we are. Who might be nearby—at church, in your neighborhood, workplace, or community—with whom you could take a next step toward real friendship?
8. What is one practical way you could move from surface-level contact to genuine friendship this month?

Scripture References

John 13:35

Ephesians 2:15-19

Colossians 3:11

John 15:13-15

1 Corinthians 12:26

Episode 4: Global Collaboration

Presenter: Jurie Kriel

Jurie Kriel invites believers to see collaboration as a vital for our discipleship and an expression of unity in the body of Christ. He shows that working together in mission is both part of Jesus' desire for his church and a powerful witness in a divided world. This session calls Christians to move beyond isolation into meaningful partnership marked by humility, shared gifts, and common purpose.

Icebreaker: Tell about a time when working together with others made something stronger, easier, or more fruitful than doing it alone.

Discussion Questions

1. What stood out to you most from Jurie's talk, and why?
2. Jurie says collaboration is the fruit of relationship. Why is genuine relationship such an important foundation for meaningful collaboration?
3. Read John 17:20–21 together. What do you notice about Jesus' prayer for unity, and why does it matter for our witness in an increasingly fragmented world?
4. Jurie says some of the solutions we need are not found in ourselves alone but in others. Why can that be hard to admit, both personally and as churches or ministries?
5. Jurie contrasts maturity with a scarcity mindset. Where do you see competition, fear, or scarcity affecting the way Christians work together?
6. Read 1 Corinthians 3:9 together. What does it mean to see ourselves as God's fellow workers—and how might that reshape the way we think about other churches, ministries, or believers in different places?
7. How does the idea of being "fellow workers" reshape the way we think about other churches, ministries, or believers from different places?
8. Where might God be inviting your church, team, or group to move from isolation toward partnership?

Scripture References

John 17:20-21

John 13:35

Acts 2:42-47

2 Corinthians 8:14

Ephesians 4:1-6

1 Corinthians 3:9

Episode 5: How Local Is Your Faith?

Presenter: Jason Watson

Jason Watson closes the series by reminding believers that global discipleship and local discipleship cannot be separated—they are one and the same. Looking to the example of Jesus and the life of the local church, he shows that God’s global mission is lived out through embodied, everyday obedience where we are. This session calls Christians to be rooted in Christian community and to become a bridge between their local church and the global body of Christ.

Icebreaker: What has helped you feel most connected to a local church community?

Discussion Questions

1. What stood out to you most from Jason’s talk, and why?
2. Jason says we can be tempted to value the global vision of the church while neglecting our local church. Why do you think that tension can happen?
3. What challenged you about his picture of Jesus living locally with a global vision?
4. The story of the coal from the fire shows the importance of staying connected to Christian community. What does that image say to you about faith, belonging, and spiritual health?
5. Read 1 Corinthians 12:21, 26–27 together. What do you notice about our need for the local church—and the church’s need for us?
6. Jason draws two truths from 1 Corinthians 12: First, we need the local church, and secondly the local church needs us. Which of those do you find easier to believe, and which is harder to live out?
7. How can the things we have learned in this series—about the global church, global mission, global prayer, global learning, friendship, and collaboration—actually strengthen a local church?
8. Jason says we can become a bridge between the local church and the global body of Christ. What is one simple step you could take this week to help your local church grow in both local faithfulness and global awareness?

Scripture References

John 3:16

John 1:14

1 Corinthians 12:21-27

Matthew 28:18-20

Facilitator Notes

Tips for Leading These Discussions Well

Begin with prayer and invite the group to listen for both personal conviction and shared direction.

Make room for every voice, especially quieter participants and those with different cultural experiences. (Tip: Use the icebreaker question to ensure everyone has spoken before the first round of questions)

Keep the conversation anchored in Scripture and in the main burden of the talk, not only in abstract opinions.

Let application become concrete by asking for one practical next step, not just one good intention.

End by praying outwardly: for the nations, for the global church, and for faithful local obedience.

Suggested Time Flow for a 60–90 Minute Session



Six Themes of Global Discipleship

This series has traced six interconnected practices that together form the shape of a globally engaged faith. Each one builds on the others, and each one calls us to both personal transformation and communal action.



Global Awareness

Seeing the church as one body from every nation, tribe, and tongue.



Global Prayer

Aligning our hearts with God's heart for the nations through intentional, outward prayer.



Global Learning

Receiving from believers in other cultures with humility, knowing no one holds the full picture.



Global Friendship

Building genuine cross-cultural relationships as witness, obedience, and first step in mission.



Global Collaboration

Moving beyond isolation and competition to share gifts, resources, and mission together.



Local Rootedness

Grounding global vision in faithful, committed presence within the local church.

"Now you are the body of Christ, and each of you is a part of it." — **1 Corinthians 12:27**