

# BIG IDEA SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Small groups that focus on the Big Idea for the week can use this guide to apply the message to life and take action. Feel free to use whatever parts of this guide best fit your group personality and time frame. All verses, unless otherwise noted, are from the New International Version (NIV).

**11.1/2.08 // DNA OF THE REPRODUCING CHURCH:  
REPRODUCING CONGREGATIONS  
*Reproducing congregations allows us to better  
"Win Downriver to Christ"***

## // Ice Breaker \_\_\_\_\_

**Option 1: Have you had to do something outside of your comfort zone? How did you handle it? What scared you or held you back?**

**Option 2: Have you started something that began small, but then grew and expanded? A business? A hobby, project, team? A cause? A ministry?**

## // Questions for Discussion \_\_\_\_\_

**In Old Testament Israel, Solomon built the Temple, and people from all over the nation were expected to show up at this one location to worship. Did Jesus follow that same pattern when building the church? Why do you think Jesus travelled from place to place? Read these verses:**

Luke 4:31 - Then he went down to Capernaum, a town in Galilee, and on the Sabbath began to teach the people.

Luke 8:1 - After this, Jesus traveled about from one town and village to another, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God. The Twelve were with him...

Matthew 8:18,23 - When Jesus saw the crowd around him, he gave orders to cross to the other side of the lake. ...Then he got into the boat and his disciples followed him.

Matthew 9:35 - Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness.

Matthew 4:19 - "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men."

Matthew 9:37 - Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few."

Mark 4:1 - Again Jesus began to teach by the lake. The crowd that gathered around him was so large that he got into a boat and sat in it out on the lake, while all the people were along the shore at the water's edge.

Mark 6:7, 30 - Then Jesus went around teaching from village to village. Calling the Twelve to him, he sent them out two by two and gave them authority over evil spirits. ...The apostles gathered around Jesus and reported to him all they had done and taught.

**What are some biblical reasons why a church should never stop growing, based on these verses:**

Jesus:

Matt. 16:18 - "I will build my church."

Luke 19:10 - "For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost."

Luke 14:23 - "Go out to the roads and country lanes and make them come in, so that my house will be full."

Matthew 9:37-38 - "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

Paul:

2 Cor. 5:14 - "For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all..."

Colossians 2:19 - "...the Head, from whom the whole body, supported and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows as God causes it to grow."

Peter:

2 Peter 3:9 - "The Lord...is patient, not wanting anyone to perish, but wants everyone to come to repentance."

**Read Acts 1:8. Jesus gave these parting instructions to his disciples. How can this pattern be carried out today?**

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

**If you have a Bible with you, how do we see this pattern carried out in the early church throughout the books of Acts? How many Christians were there when the church first started? How many were there at the end of the book of Acts? Read these verses:**

Acts 1:5, 2:41, 2:47, 4:4, 5:14, 6:1, 6:7, 9:31, 11:21, 16:5, 21:20

**What do think would be the benefit of starting a second campus of Southpoint, with the same DNA, vision, leadership, resources, message and Big Idea...as opposed to starting a brand new church from scratch?**

**Do you see any parallels with how we go about our everyday lives with this concept...such as shopping, restaurants, banking, etc.? Why do most veer to certain well-known businesses and brands instead of others?**

**How can we make less difficult and more convenient for non-Christians to find their way to God and church? Read Acts 15:19.**

"We should not make it difficult for the Gentiles [unbelievers] who are turning to God."

**Do you think you would invite a friend, neighbor or family member to Southpoint if it were closer to your home? What could you do this week, big or small, to try to reach someone for Christ?**

**// Prayer\_\_\_\_\_**

**Pray that God reveals your role in reproducing our congregation.  
Pray God continues to raise up new leaders.**