



## RISK-TAKING AND GOSPEL PROGRESS

J.D. GREER

### EXERCISE

Because we tend to avoid things that scare us, we often ignore fear. As you walk through this exercise, identify what may be holding your back. Remember Scripture repeats, "Fear not" for a reason: we're all afraid.

#### Instructions:

Create a list of things that cause you anxiety or fear when it comes to church planting in your community.

1. From your list, select three things that scare you or cause anxiety.
2. Write these things on a list titled "Risk Action Steps" and circle the one thing that needs the most attention from you over the next 90 days.
3. Develop three action steps to take over the next 90 days to address that fear.

#### Debrief:

- What will be your biggest challenge to overcoming this fear?





## FAITH OVER FEAR

TRILLIA NEWBELL

### EXERCISE

Faith is a gift.

- Make a list of at least 30 passages that remind you of God's promises.
- On a calendar, write a verse on each day of the month. Pray through the passage on that day.

Faith is a promise and a person.

- Review the daily promise passage you listed for the day. At the end of your day, record the ways you saw God show up and fulfill that promise.

We can walk by faith amid chaos.

- What challenges or chaos do you feel you are facing today? How does your promise passage for the day speak to that challenge?

Challenge your team to complete this exercise as well. In your weekly or monthly time together, debrief how you are seeing God's promises come alive in your lives. How does this fulfillment they speak into the fears you are facing?





# EVANGELISM IN YOUR OWN LIFE

MARK MITTLEBERG

## EXERCISE

Prayer, passages, partner, and person help you to remember evangelism in your own life. Create a plan for a 30-day challenge to address these four areas of evangelism.

### Week 1: Prayer

- Incorporate in your daily prayer time prayers of repentance, prayers for courage, and prayers for dependence.

### Week 2: Passages

- Create a list of passages that focus on Jesus' teachings on evangelism. Meditate on these passages, memorize them, and study them with your team.

### Week 3: Partner

- Identify a person who can partner with you and who will challenge you, celebrate with you, and pray for you to have gospel conversations.

### Week 4: Person

- Who are the people you need to have conversations with? When will you do it? How can you make it a more regular part of your daily or weekly rhythms?



## PRAYING BOLD PRAYERS

J.D. GREER

### EXERCISE

We can pray bold prayers. Review the list of God's promises you created in the exercise for Faith Over Fear. Process each passage through the following list. Following the list, you will see a sample of a prayer from Jeremiah 29:11. Use the sample as a model for your prayers then complete the challenge.

We take hold of the promises of God through prayer.

- 1. Proper interpretation.** We seek to understand the promise in its grammatical, historical context.
- 2. Sound theology.** We learn the truth about the ways God acts on behalf of His children.
- 3. Genuine humility.** We don't make arrogant, self-centered demands of God.
- 4. Historical awareness.** Because we know God is the same yesterday, today, and forever, we believe God can act on our behalf like He once did for His ancient people.
- 5. Confident boldness.** Because we know that sometimes we do not have because we do not ask (James 4:2), we boldly ask for the favor of God based on the promise.
- 6. Faithful expectation.** We eagerly watch, trusting God with the what, the how, and the when.
- 7. God-centered praise.** We are poised to give God all the glory for what He does for us (even for what He chooses to withhold).

Practically speaking, how do we do this? How exactly are we to pray?

We might pray something like the following:

*Lord, You are the same yesterday, today, and forever. I know that Jeremiah 29:11 was not written primarily for me. Thank You that You fulfilled that promise for ancient Israel. You did restore their fortunes. I, too, am one of Your beloved children. Like Your people in Jeremiah's day, I have rightly been disciplined by You. I also have experienced brokenness in my life. Today, I put my finger on this promise and look to heaven, to You. I ask You, Lord, to execute Your good plans for me, plans for welfare and not for calamity. Bring about a future and a hope for me, Lord. Fulfill this promise in Your way and in Your time for me, for my family, and for my church plant. Fulfilling promises is who You are. This is what You do. I believe that the fulfillment of Jeremiah 29:11 for me has been made possible through Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.*

What might happen in your life as a church planter if you regularly recalled God's promises from His Word and began to boldly lay hold of them through prayer?

Using the 30-day calendar of God's promises, pray a passage each day for yourself, for your family, for your church plant, and for your community.





## DEVELOPING FAITH GOALS FOR YOUR CHURCH

NOAH OLDHAM

### EXERCISE

Faith-goal setting is the process of identifying what God wants to accomplish through you. It requires finding God's metrics and God's timeframe for His purposes and requires God's help.

Church planting is an exciting journey of faith. You know God has called you to a specific place at a specific time for a specific reason. The challenges you face are huge. If the dream is to become reality, you need God's provision and protection. In order to see God work in a big way, you ask yourself some big questions:

- What am I trusting God to accomplish in the early stages of my church plant?
- What are the major items He's impressing on my heart to pray for right now?
- What are some "dangerous" prayers I need to be praying?
- What do I need to do to accomplish what God has called our team to do?

When you begin to pray through questions like these, you will identify some Faith Goals your team can start praying for.

These Faith Goals should tie directly back into the vision. Think through how these Faith Goals support the vision that God has given you and how they fulfill the mission that God has put in front of you.

Use the following template to help you lay out the Faith Goals that you give the right amount of help at the right moment to accomplish the vision. We like to call a 1 – 4 – 1 – 4 plan. The first 1 is your vision. Write it at the top of the box. Underneath it draw four boxes.






## DEVELOPING FAITH GOALS FOR YOUR CHURCH

NOAH OLDHAM

### EXERCISE

What are the four big mountains that must be climbed for the vision to become a reality? How will they require faith on your part? On your team's part? How will they support the vision of the church plant?

Underneath the four boxes, draw one big box. What's the one goal that must be accomplished this year for your church plant to move closer to the vision God has given you? How will it be a step of faith for you and your team?

Finally, draw four more boxes underneath the one big one. These will be your 90-day faith goals to accomplish the one-year big Faith Goal. What are the details to accomplish across the whole plant? How will they require leaps of faith? What's the next set of 90-day goals that need to happen next to get you to the one-year goal.

Don't go alone in this process. Invite others to pray and dream with you.

