

# UNSHAKEABLE MISSION

## BROAD OVERVIEW

### PREPARING FOR SUNDAY

- Sunday afternoon, begin spiritually preparing by prayerfully working through *Unshakeable* throughout the week; prepare to teach using the *Teacher Preparation Guide*.
- Prepare and collect any resources you will use Sunday morning.

### SUNDAY MORNING | READY THE ROOM

- Be sure your class leadership team is ready to receive members and guests by at least 9:50am.
- Use nametags for members and guests and ensure everyone gets a copy of the *Unshakeable Personal Journal*.
- Prominently display the learning goal before anyone arrives.

## THE GROUPLIFE HOUR

1. **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS** (< 5 MINUTES)
2. **DAILY READING HIGHLIGHTS & PRAYER** (10-15 MINUTES)
3. **READY THE LEARNERS** (<10 MINUTES)
4. **TEACH & APPLY THE LESSON** (25-30 MINUTES)
5. **GUIDE MEMBERS TO RESPOND** (5 MINUTES)
6. **FINAL REMINDERS & DISMISS CLASS** (3 MINUTES)

### PREPARING FOR NEXT SUNDAY

- See the attached *Teacher Preparation Guide*.

### **PREPARING FOR SUNDAY**

#### **1. PREPARE SPIRITUALLY & PREPARE TO TEACH:**

- Begin working through the *Teacher Preparation Guide* starting Sunday afternoon or very early in the week. You can find it on the last page of this document. You can also access this (and other) teacher resources at [fcbryan.org/unshakeable](http://fcbryan.org/unshakeable).
- Prepare yourself spiritually by prayerfully working through the *Unshakeable Daily Readings* throughout the week.
- Teachers are always free to narrow the scope of the lesson by zeroing in on a single truth in the chapter they prayerfully believe best meets the needs of the class. Dig into the scriptures around that truth in *Unshakeable*, or supplement it with other passages the Lord draws you to in your preparation.

#### **2. PREPARE RESOURCES:**

- Ready a cleaned white board with white board markers or a large presentation sheet with permanent markers.
- Make a plan for displaying the learning goal on white board, presentation sheet, powerpoint slide, or handout.
- Have a method nailed down for collecting class prayer requests and distributing them to the class later that day.
- Provide index cards and pens for the opening activity.

# **SUNDAY MORNING**

## **READY THE ROOM**

- Be sure your class leadership team is ready to receive members and guests by at least 9:50am. Though members are in the habit of showing up later, guests typically arrive early so as not to draw attention to themselves.
- Warm the environment of the room with music
- Prominently display the learning goal before anyone arrives:

## **EVERY CHRISTIAN IS MADE TO MULTIPLY THEIR LIFE ON MISSION**

- Use nametags for members and guests. Be ready to gather information from class guests using Guest Information Cards or TouchPoint checkin.
- Ensure guests get a copy of the *Unshakeable Personal Journal* when they first arrive. This will give guests something to look at while waiting for members to arrive.
- Engage guests in warm conversation. Introduce them to others in the class and engage them in conversation if it appears welcome.

## **THE GROUPLIFE HOUR**

1. **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS (< 5 MINUTES)**. There's a lot to cover. Select a few announcements that are most time sensitive or important. Leave the remaining announcements to class communications during the week.
2. **DAILY READING HIGHLIGHTS & PRAYER (10-15 MINUTES)**
  - a. **VARY THE WAY YOU PAIR YOUR GROUPINGS FROM PREVIOUS WEEKS.** You can group people in triads, by proximity, gender groups,

care groups, the whole group, etc. Try not to do the same thing every week – variety can help some learners be more engaged.

- b. **SHARE INSIGHTS.** Instruct your class: “Pair up with a few people around you. Browse through this week’s reading in your Personal Journal looking for anything you may have underlined or highlighted. Share something that stood out to you from the Daily Readings this week in your Unshakeable Personal Journal.”
- c. **SHARE PRAYER REQUESTS.** Share how the group can be praying **for you**. In the interest of time, arrange for prayers **for others** to be collected and shared with the entire class through email.
- d. **REPORT INSIGHTS TO CLASS.** Ask someone from a few groups to share with the class something from the Daily Readings that was shared in their group.
- e. **UNSHAKEABLE REMINDERS:** Encourage the class that in addition to GroupLife, to read the Daily Readings and attend our Worship Service every week. Urge them to bring their *Personal Journal* with them each week. Encourage them to “just read today’s reading” if they fall behind, and leave any catchup work to Day 6, if desired. Encourage them to not get bogged down on being perfectly consistent; Satan will surely use that against them.

### 3. **READY THE LEARNERS (<10 MINUTES)**

**Engage the class member’s HEART & MIND.** Debate, illustrate, brainstorm, share a surprising/humorous/controversial quote or question, or tell a personal story you will use to begin your lesson. Something that activates the mind or heart readies the member for learning better than jumping into facts.

- a. I want us to start today by having each of us consider who lives in your neck of the woods. Who’s in your family, your friendship group, your work community, or your church that you believe needs to repent and come to Christ?

For the next 60 seconds, write their names on the index card provided.

- b. **PRAY:** Pause to pray, leading your class to be open hearted and attentive to God's truth, how it applies to our lives, and how He wants us to respond. Ask for wisdom and understanding that doesn't puff us up with pride. Ask for correction where there is error or misunderstanding. Ask for what we learn today to compel us to more deeply love God and all people with whom we come in contact.

#### 4. **TEACH & APPLY THE LESSON** (25-30 MINUTES)

**Engage the class member's HEART, MIND, & HANDS.** As you teach the facts of the lesson, you are teaching the mind, and answering the question, "What is true?". We must also teach the heart, answering the question, "How should I value this truth?". Finally, we must give attention to the hands, answering the question, "What must I do with this truth that I now value?"

- a. **God sovereignly placed you around those He wants you to impact for His kingdom.**
  - 1) Acts 17:26 – God placed you where and when in the timeline of history for you to help those around you repent and turn to Jesus
  - 2) How does it feel knowing that God has Sovereignly orchestrated the events of your birth so that you would not only exist, but so that you would exist in a certain time and place so that He would work in these peoples' lives, in part, through you? **Does that overwhelm you, excite you, compel you into action, cause you to feel shame, etc.?** Turn to the person next to you and describe how that fact caused you to feel.
  - 3) Have a volunteer read the quote in the callout box on page 153:

IF THE FIRST DISCIPLES HAD ONLY RECEIVED THE ABIDING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS, BUT DIDN'T ALLOW THAT ABIDING RELATIONSHIP TO BEAR THE FRUIT OF INFLUENCE ON OTHERS, YOU WOULDN'T BE READING THIS RIGHT NOW.

What that quote is saying is that the disciples didn't keep Jesus to themselves. They lived to share Him with others. Otherwise, we wouldn't have heard about Jesus. The message would have died with them.

Now, turn to the person next to you and describe how *that* fact causes you to feel.

**b. In His full authority, Jesus sends you on mission.**

- 1) In a passage of Scripture called the Great Commission, Jesus sends His disciples everywhere—near, far, and everywhere in between.
- 2) Acts 17 tells us God put us where we are to influence those around us. Here He tells us to go. Should everyone go outside of the community in which they live to share Jesus? Where does God's Word speak to your answer.
- 3) There are a characters in the Bible that showed various responses to God's call.
  - (a) – Abraham, when called to sacrifice Isaac (Gen. 22:1-3)
  - (b) – Jonah, when called to Ninevah (Jonah 1:1-3)
  - (c) – Isaiah, when God said, "who will go...?" (Isaiah 6)
  - (d) – Jesus, in the Garden of Gethsemane (Matthew 26:42)Do any of these have a posture toward God's call that all Christians should have? Discuss.
- 4) If God were to speak to you about a missions opportunity (through heart impressions, circumstances, church leaders), and the opportunity confirms what the Bible teaches about fulfilling the Great Commission, and the specifics of the opportunity do not contradict Scripture, what's your next move? **Discuss as a class.**

**c. You can expect God's specific leading as you are on mission.**

God leads those who go. Remember Abram in the Old Testament? He was asked to leave his homeland. So he left. Without first knowing where God wanted him to go. Abram understood that God was telling him to go, He would also guide him along the way.

On the bottom of page 163 in your Personal Journal begins a quote: ..."Paul was resolute in following Christ's Great Commission, but Paul didn't leave Jesus behind to go do His commands. Jesus was coming with them, and comes with us, to every place He leads us. "

We are told that God actively led Paul as he was going about fulfilling the Great Commission. Paul was forbidden to do certain things, and prompted by God to do other things. Knowing that we are vulnerable to self-deception and self-preservation, how do you tell the difference between you just not wanting to do something God is leading you to do, and God actually not wanting you to do it? Would a believer who is abiding in Christ daily discern that more accurately? Why or why not?

- d. **Fruitful mission work is impossible apart from His Spirit.** When it comes to living on mission, only the Spirit has the power and ability to change a person's heart to understand their need for Jesus, to want Jesus, and to receive Jesus. It's of supreme arrogance (or ignorance) to act as if the Spirit is not needed to be on mission. If He did not go with us, only what is naturally possible would result. But that is not what God has called us to do. He has called us to extend the rule and reign of His kingdom with the aid of His indwelling Spirit. Come to think of it, that's not just how He wants us to live on mission, it's how He wants us to live. Period.
- e. **Our best Great Commission work is done together.** When we are on mission together, each one of us is supported by all the others. And we bring all of our uniqueness and spiritual gifts into the mission field for God to use in any number of ways. Being on mission is not an individual pursuit. To be sure, we must individually surrender to God's call. But we are surrendering to a call to be on mission together.

## 5. GUIDE MEMBERS TO RESPOND (5-10 minutes)

**Engage the class member's WORSHIP** ("Knowing what I must do with this truth I now value, how will I respond to the Lord?")

- a. If there is little detectable kingdom missions activity in your life, could it be that there is an underlying growth issue that needs to be addressed? Journey Groups help believers understand grace in Jesus, develop an abiding relationship, understand their spiritual gifts, and enter into God's mission. Write down your plan for tending to your abiding relationship with Jesus and your engagement in His mission, either in Journey Groups or in some other way in the coming year:

- b. There are opportunities regularly being discussed in the Loop and in your GroupLife class to be on mission. There are opportunities to give sacrificially, serve our community, serve the next generation, and to engage in short-term mission projects. Write a goal for yourself this fall and for the next calendar year to engage in God's mission to our city, nation, and world.

## **ANCHORING RESPONSES TO THE GOSPEL**

**Gospel encouragement:** This does not need to be explicitly stated (though there may be times you elect to), but as you guide members to respond to these lessons, you may need to in one way or another remind the class that God never calls us to live "for" Him, apart from Him. When we abide in Christ by walking in the Spirit, He enables us to live far above what our self-righteousness observance of rules can accomplish. God is able to produce righteousness in us that brings Him glory when we walk by faith.

### **What does a gospel-centered response look like?**

- 1) Pray to God about the response He wants you to make.
- 2) Confess that you're unable to do this apart from Him.
- 3) Confess that since you have been set free from the power of sin, it no longer has power over you.
- 4) Ask for God's supernatural help.
- 5) Walk in obedience with unbroken prayer and dependence on God.
- 6) If you slip, that indicates you have slipped back into self-reliance. Enter into God's presence to receive grace and mercy, knowing you are welcome there based on the work of Jesus for you.
- 7) Begin again with dependence on God and confidence that He is eager to cleanse, restore, and abide with you as you begin again.



## 6. FINAL REMINDERS & DISMISS CLASS (3 MINUTES)

- a. **Prayer Exercise.** You may voice a heart-felt, surrendering prayer to close. Or ask a member that walk with Jesus to. Better yet, lead the class through a prayer prompt related to the lesson. Prompt them so THEY are praying, rather than listening to someone pray.
- b. Encourage the group, again, to utilize their *Personal Journal* throughout the week and to bring it with them weekly.
- c. Remind them of any opportunities to connect outside of class by participating in local missions by the class or provided by the church.

# UNSHAKEABLE

## Teacher Preparation Guide

Teaching directly from the UNSHAKEABLE Personal Journal is **not** advised.  
Use this Preparation Guide to develop your own Custom Teaching Plan.  
All teacher resources online at [FBCBRYAN.ORG/UNSHAKEABLE](http://FBCBRYAN.ORG/UNSHAKEABLE)

### 1. Sunday afternoon, or very early in the week

1. Pray the Holy Spirit will guide your preparation without any hindrance.
2. Quickly read through all of this Week's Daily Readings in one sitting.
3. With a highlighter, mark the key Scripture passages in this Week's Lesson.

### 2. Monday - Friday

1. *Every day*, quickly re-read the highlighted Scripture passages.
2. Read through one Daily Reading per day, prayerfully working through it and completing the questions.
3. Throughout your preparation, make notes of any supporting scriptures, truths, illustrations, or questions the Lord brings to mind.

### 3. On or before Wednesday

1. Prayerfully read through this Week's *Suggested Teaching Plan*.

### 4. By Saturday

1. Skim all of this week's Daily Readings and *Suggested Teaching Plan* for any notes you have taken throughout the week.
2. Pray for the Holy Spirit's directing as you narrow your focus and finalize your preparation. You do not have to re-teach all the content of the Daily Readings; zero in on specific content or themes as He leads.
3. Use the *Custom Teaching Plan* document to develop a teaching plan for Sunday morning GroupLife based on how the Lord has led your devotional and preparation time.