



Life Group Discussion Guide
Mission & Vision
Shaping Our Vision – Acts 15:19, Acts 16:1-5
Scott Paulson
November 21, 2021

Main thought:

For the mission to never change we must always be changing.

Principles:

Filters Shaping our Vision

1. Filter of Evaluation
2. Filter of Targets
3. Filter of Age
4. Filter of Discipleship
5. Filter of Equipping

Welcome and Fellowship Time (suggested time 10 min)

Open in Prayer

Discussion Starter (suggested sharing time 5-10 min)

- Share a time when you were the new person (church, school, job, club, etc.) and how you felt. What did people do that made you feel welcome or not welcome?

Week in Review (suggested sharing time 5-10 min)

- Who have you been praying for this last week to come to know Jesus? How have you sought to raise the atmosphere of love at church or in your other spheres of influence?

Sermon Review (suggested time 15 min)

Review the passages from Sunday's message and discuss the following questions.

- What stood out to you from this passage(s)/message?
- What was decided at the Jerusalem council in Acts 15? Why was this so important?
- In Acts 15:19 James says, "that we should not make it difficult for the gentiles (outsiders) who are turning to God".
 - What are ways that we can make it difficult for "outsiders" who are turning to God?



- What are things we've done as a church to make it less difficult for "outsiders" who are turning to God?
- Why is Paul's decision to have Timothy circumcised so shocking in Acts 16? Why does Paul do this and what's the result?

Digging Deeper (suggested time 15 min)

Read 1 Corinthians 9:19-23 and discuss the following questions.

- What does Paul mean when he says he became all things to all people? Does that mean he compromised his lifestyle, character or truth?
- What was Paul's motive for adapting to these various people and situations?
- What do we allow to get in the way of reaching those, particularly those with very different lifestyles and world views?

Application (suggested time 10 minutes)

- Which of the 5 filters that are shaping our vision stood out to you and why?
- What is something that is your personal preference but not necessarily a theological conviction or Bible command? Why is it important for you spiritually to both value these things but also recognize them as personal preferences?
- When thinking about the mature disciple Venn diagram and recognizing that we need all three aspects as a mature disciple, which do you tend to lean towards in your own life (Biblical Knowledge, Spiritual Intimacy, Holy Obedience)?
 - How can being in a life group help us grow in all three aspects of spiritual maturity?
- Do you feel comfortable inviting guests to South Hills Church? Why or why not?
- Why is it important to remember to think like a new person?

Group Prayer Requests: (Suggested Time 10 minutes)

Spend time praying for each other & praying for application of the study in the lives of the group members. (Suggested time 10 minutes)