

## Spring Missions Festival

### Discussion Questions (Select a manageable number to discuss)

1. Which missionaries here at the festival, listed below, have you met personally?

Do you know where they are based and what approach they are utilizing?

Is your small group involved with these or other missionaries related to the church family?

Paul Adams	Bob & Becky Faber	Rick & Janice McKinley
Dick & Roslyn Albright	Dorothy Forsberg	Daniel & Heather Owens
Nancy Crawford	James Hackman	Mark & Marilyn Papierski
Giles & Debbie Davis	Jeff & Janet Leman	Ben & Mandy Pehrson
Stan & Faith De La Cour	John & Elsa Maust	Ryan & Kelly Skinner
Anita Deyneka	Thad & Joy McAuley	Jim & Beth Tebbe

2. Read the following Scriptures referenced by the speakers as they rehearsed how God intervenes in human affairs for his own glory:

*“For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts” (Isa. 55:9, ESV).*

“Behold, I have set before you an open door, which no one is able to shut” (Rev. 3:8).

*Out of the mouth of babies and infants, you have established strength because of your foes, to still the enemy and the avenger (Ps. 8:2).*

When the chief priests and the scribes saw . . . the children crying out in the temple . . . they were indignant, . . . Jesus said to them, “. . . have you never read, “Out of the mouth of infants and nursing babies you have prepared praise’?” (Matt. 21:15–16).

3. How did God use Norway’s initial neutrality in World War II, the Japanese bombing raid of a refugee camp, and the Communist regime’s attempt to eliminate religion to re-establish an open door in China’s Shanxi province?  
What was the cost to Finn Torjesen’s grandparents and parents?  
What price have Finn’s colleagues Marsh and Renee Strand paid for unprecedented access to the community health providers of the province and their patients?
4. What happened after Jim Tebbe returned to Pakistan with Beth, and was denied admittance to study Islam under Muslims at the University of Punjab?  
How did God reverse Pakistan’s 32-year nationalization of Foreman Christian University?
5. We usually assume, Jim Tebbe pointed out, that praying for harvesters (Matt. 9:37–38) means asking that missionaries be sent. But whom had God assigned to be the harvester in the John 4 story? (See vv, 28–29, 39–44.)
6. Ryan Skinner noted how God turned the unique backgrounds, personalities, and skills of individuals in the Bible to advance his purposes. How do the following illustrate this pattern: Joseph? . . . Ruth? . . . Jonah? . . . Peter and John?
7. How is God using children of Africa and Latin America to prompt praise to God? Luis Bush cited biblical examples of God’s readiness to employ youths. How did David “still the avenger”? . . . How about Josiah? . . . Esther? . . . Jeremiah?
8. How has God used Christian response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Africa to change sexual behavior? . . . and the stance of some public health experts toward abstinence?
9. How will the festival’s Reaching Kids Project build on what Luis Bush called the 4–14-years-of-age golden opportunity for response to the gospel in Myanmar (Burma)? . . . in Morocco? . . . in Costa Rica? . . . and in Africa?
10. Finn Torjesen cited Psalm 37:5 and 7 as a template for how to mesh with what God is doing in the world. He also cited Oswald Chambers: “Trust God and do the next thing.” How might this apply to your situation?