

NAZARENE  MISSIONS

A  
MOVEMENT  
OF GOD  
THROUGH  
THE PEOPLE  
OF GOD

LEADER'S **GUIDE**





NAZARENE  MISSIONS

CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE



## THIS GUIDE WILL HELP LEADERS TO:

- 1 Understand and clearly articulate the purpose and method of Nazarene Missions.
- 2 Understand and clearly articulate what it means to be a Nazarene missionary and the church's process of sending.
- 3 Understand and clearly articulate how to support Christ's transformational work through the Church of the Nazarene.
- 4 Use the contents of this box to do all of the above.

### TIP

Take some time to download all the videos and look over the items in this box to get acquainted with the materials offered. This will help you to build upon the suggestions offered in this Leader's Guide. Your familiarity with the contents of this guide and ability to creatively adapt it to your group will make for a more formative experience.





*session one*  
**NAZARENE MISSIONS**

NAZARENE MISSIONS

CENTERS AROUND

COMPASSION,

EVANGELISM,

**AND EDUCATION.**



## PREPARE



On your own, watch the “**Nazarene Missions**,” “**Intro to Nazarene Missions**,” and “**Method of Missions**” instructional videos. Decide if these videos would be helpful for your group to view or if they would be better for you as you prepare to lead this session.



Locate the “**Nazarene Missions General Brochure**” and print enough copies for everyone in your group to have one.



## BEGIN SESSION ONE

## STORY AND REFLECTION



**PLAY** the “**Current Missionary Story**” video for your group.



**TAKE TWO.** Give your group two minutes to think specifically about the **purpose** and **method** of God’s mission in the world. More specifically, ask them to ponder how they see the Kingdom coming to earth. This question covers both the **purpose** and **method**. If your group is large, have them use the two minutes to discuss with neighbors. If your group is smaller, take some extra time to discuss openly.



**HAND OUT** the “**Nazarene Missions General Brochure**” and give time for reading and reflection.

## COMPASSION



**SHARE THIS.** When Jesus is explaining how we will be separated like sheep and goats in Matthew 25, it seems that one of the determining factors for judgment is whether we showed **compassion**. So it is fitting to start here when we talk about Nazarene Missions.



**READ Matthew 25:31-46** with your group and ask them or identify with them the systemic issues that Jesus is addressing here.

**Answer Key:** hunger, thirst, sickness, and imprisonment.



**TELL A NEW STORY.** Reference the area in the brochure that highlights the ways Nazarene Missions is showing compassion to bring restoration. Ask how this can encourage the local church. Ask how the local church can share in this effort.

## EVANGELISM



**SHARE THIS.** A paralyzed man is lowered down before Jesus in Matthew 9, and Jesus' first compassionate act is to call him "son" and forgive his sins. It seems that the **Good News** of salvation and restoration is always paramount in Jesus' ministry, so it's fitting that we continue with **evangelism** when we talk about Nazarene Missions.



**READ Matthew 9:1-8** with your group and discuss the obvious need of the paralyzed man (**to be healed**) and the deeper need of the paralyzed man (**to be redeemed**).



**TELL A NEW STORY.** Reference the area in the brochure that highlights the ways Nazarene Missions is practicing evangelism. Ask how this can encourage the local church. Ask how the local church can share in this effort.



## EDUCATION



**SHARE THIS.** After Jesus' death and resurrection, the disciples go back to what they know—fishing. So the resurrected Christ shows Himself to them again and reminds them of their **training** and His **teaching**. Then He **resources** them in the best way possible: by giving them the gift of the Holy Spirit and sending them in His power. This is how Jesus creates sustainability for the Christian movement that had just begun.



**TELL A NEW STORY.** Reference the area in the brochure that highlights the ways Nazarene Missions is using **education** to bring about sustainability. Ask how this can encourage the local church. Ask how the local church can share in this effort.

## CREATIVE CLOSING IDEA



Ask the group to take the “**Nazarene Missions General Brochure**” home and cut it up. Create a collage of the pictures, words, and ideas that stand out and place it on their refrigerators as a reminder to pray for Nazarene Missions.



*session two*  
**THE NAZARENE  
MISSIONARY**

A CHRISTLIKE DISCIPLE  
SET APART BY THE HOLY SPIRIT,  
PRAYERFULLY SENT OUT BY  
THE CHURCH, AFFIRMED BY  
NAZARENE MISSIONS TO CROSS  
CULTURAL BARRIERS FOR  
THE PURPOSE OF SPREADING  
SCRIPTURAL HOLINESS



## PREPARE



On your own, watch the “**Who Is a Nazarene Missionary**” and “**How Is Nazarene Missions Funded**” instructional videos. Decide if these videos would be helpful for your group to view or if they would be better for you as you prepare to lead this session.



Locate the “**Nazarene Missions Missionary Brochure**” and print enough copies for everyone in your group to have one.



## BEGIN SESSION TWO

## STORY AND REFLECTION



**PLAY** the “**Career Missionary Story**” video for your group.



**TAKE TWO.** Allow two minutes for reflection and discussion about the function of a missionary. What does a missionary do? Even more specifically, what does your group think a Nazarene missionary does each day? If your group is large, have them use the two minutes to discuss with neighbors. If your group is smaller, take some extra time to discuss openly.



**HAND OUT** the “**Nazarene Missions Missionary Brochure**” and give time for reading and reflection.

## CHRISTLIKE DISCIPLES



**SHARE THIS.** Paul discovers two key elements in developing a Christlike disciple: **shared suffering** and **resurrection power**. As such, these are two tangible efforts of Nazarene missionaries in the cultures and contexts they serve.



**READ Philippians 3:9-11** with your group. “I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.” Discuss what it means to have righteousness that comes from our Father through faith.



**TELL A NEW STORY.** Reference the area in the brochure that defines a **Christlike disciple**. Ask your group to reflect and share what they think it means to be “set apart.”

## SENT BY THE CHURCH



**SHARE THIS.** Acts 15 describes the Council at Jerusalem as they meet to discuss and celebrate the growing movement of Christ’s Church. In the midst of this, there is a very simple and profound statement: “The church sent them on their way.” This has always been an identifying characteristic of the **Church** — **to send** — and an identifying characteristic of the **Christlike disciple** — **to be sent**.



**TELL A NEW STORY.** Reference the area in the brochure that highlights the Church’s call to **send**. Ask your group to reflect and share what they think it means to “prepare and deploy” those who are called to Nazarene Missions.



## TRANSFORM THE WORLD



**READ Romans 12:2** with your group. “Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.” Discuss what it means to be personally transformed and renewed in Christ.



**SHARE THIS.** This is a familiar scripture to many and is usually seen through a personal lens, but it is the task of the missionary to put our renewed minds into practice with the way we imagine a **transformed world.**



**TELL A NEW STORY.** Reference the part of the brochure that highlights how Nazarene missionaries help transform the world. Ask your group to think about two words separately: **transformation** and **holiness.** Then ask them to put those words together. What does that look like in the world?

## CREATIVE CLOSING IDEA



Ask the group to take the “**Nazarene Missions Missionary Brochure**” home and cut it up. Create a collage of the pictures, words, and ideas that stand out and place it on their refrigerators as a reminder to pray for Nazarene missionaries around the world.

## CLARIFYING CLOSING IDEA



If you determine it would be helpful for your group, take some time together or in smaller groups to walk through the sending steps highlighted in the “**Missionary Model for Sending**” brochure. These steps give a fuller vision of the process and can be helpful for further reflection.

A busy street scene in India, likely a market or a public square, with many people and vehicles. A purple overlay covers the center of the image, containing text. The background shows a dense crowd of people, some wearing traditional Indian attire, and several vehicles, including a blue motorcycle and a green truck. The scene is filled with activity and movement.

*session three*  
**JOINING THE  
MOVEMENT**

A  
MOVEMENT  
OF GOD  
THROUGH  
THE PEOPLE  
OF GOD

## PREPARE



On your own, watch the “**Faith Promise**” instructional video. Decide if this video would be helpful for your group to view or if it would be better for you as you prepare to lead this session.



BEGIN SESSION THREE

## STORY AND REFLECTION



**PLAY** the “**Life Transformation**” video for your group.



**TAKE TWO.** Allow two minutes for reflection and discussion about what they heard and saw. If your group is large, have them use the two minutes to discuss with neighbors. If your group is smaller, take some extra time to discuss openly.



**HAND OUT** the “**Nazarene Missions Offering Envelope**” and give time for prayer and reflection on how each person/family might get involved by giving.



## JOIN THE MOVEMENT



**READ Matthew 28:19-20.** Jesus is very clear, “go and make disciples of all nations...” Jesus Himself is sending us to do **His work**. He is inviting us to join **His movement**.



**TELL A NEW STORY.** Your giving is one manifestation of the power you receive from **Jesus through the Holy Spirit**. Take time as a group to worship and pray specifically for the unified body of believers growing throughout the world. Especially pray together for Nazarene Missions and the missionaries who are empowered when you share your prayers, talents, and monetary gifts.

## CLOSING IDEA



For ongoing information and prayer promptings, share the website [nazarene.org/missions](http://nazarene.org/missions) with your group.

Additional resources are also available on the site, including a booklet, sermon series, bulletin inserts, and posters.



NAZARENE  MISSIONS

CHURCH <sup>OF</sup><sub>THE</sub> NAZARENE



NAZARENE  MISSIONS

*“As the Father has sent Me,  
I am sending you.”*

**JOHN 20:21**

*Discover how you can*  
**JOIN THE MOVEMENT**  
*by visiting*

[nazarene.org/missions](http://nazarene.org/missions)