

# The Father's Heart Facilitator's Note

## Desired Outcome:

This learning activity is designed to help followers of Christ discover God's missional heartbeat throughout the whole Bible. Too often, the Great Commission is seen as the beginning of the mission emphasis of the church. This study will help participants see the thread of missions from Genesis to Revelation. The whole Bible is about the nations knowing and worshiping God.

## Materials Needed:

- Each participant will need their Bible, a pen and the [participant worksheet](#). You can easily do the activity without the worksheet. Just write the passages on a whiteboard or have participants copy them down.

## Instructions:

There does not need to be much of an introduction to this activity. It works best to divide the participants into groups of 3-5 people. Hand out the worksheets or give them the instructions.

Emphasize that for each of the verses that are read, the group will need to look for a key theme and then just write down a brief statement or phrase to describe that key point. It is helpful to read the first verse together as a group and then have them look at the example given in the space given.

Remind them that this is not a deep exegetical study but rather a quick look at each verse in search of the key theme. Tell them they will have 10 - 15 minutes to complete the worksheet. That means they need to give each verse between 30 - 45 seconds. It can be helpful to do the first one together as a group to show them what you're looking for.

When they have completed all the verse summaries, they can work together to answer the two questions at the bottom of the worksheet.

After all of the groups have completed the worksheet, gather the group back together for a time of debrief. Discuss the first question first and have participants share the

ideas, principles, heart desires of the Father that they discovered in the scriptures. Write these on a white board if possible.

**These should include:**

- That all nations be blessed
- That God's glory would cover the earth
- That all people everywhere worship him
- He pursues the lost (leaves the 99)
- He desires that none should perish
- That every nation would hear the good news of the gospel

If a participant shares some thought or idea that is not found in the verses given, simply ask the question, *"Where did you see that in the scriptures we read?"*

Make note that the word "Nations" in the Bible is the Greek word "Ethne". This isn't talking about nation states, Pakistan for example, but rather the individual people groups of the world.

Then move on to the second question. It can be helpful to share the numbers of lost in your city, country, state and the nation as you discuss this question. You can find numbers for your county and state at these two sites:

**Sources:**

- <https://www.barna.com/research/state-church-2016/>
- <http://www.thearda.com/>

Help the group consider the implications of knowing the heart of the Father (His will) on how they live their lives locally, regionally and globally. Discuss ways they might begin to live anew in light of the Father's heart. Dream together about how they can impact their communities with the good news of Jesus.

Below you will find the participant worksheet with summaries for you to reference and a list of other verses that share these same themes from throughout the scriptures.

# The Father's Heart

**Assignment:** Together in groups of 2-6, read each passage below and write a simple summary of what the passage reveals about God's heart and desire for our world.

Passage	What does this passage reveal about God's heart and desires for our world?
Genesis 12:1-3 (focus on 3b)	- God desires to bless Abraham and through Abraham (including us) <u>bless all the nations of the world.</u>
Exodus 9:16	He wants His name to be know over all the earth
Isaiah 49:6	He wants all the nations to be saved, not just Israel
Psalms 67:1-7	God wants His ways and His salvation to cover all the earth - all nations
Psalms 86:9	All the nations WILL one day bow before and honor God
Habakkuk 2:14	God's glory WILL cover all of the earth
Malachi 1:11	God's name WILL be great among the nations, worship (incense and pure offerings) WILL be offered everywhere to God
Galatians 3:8	God proclaimed the GOSPEL to Abraham when he said, "All nations will be blessed through you"
Matthew 24:14	Before the end times come, all nations everywhere will hear about the good news of the Kingdom of God
John 17:13-19	Jesus prays to send His disciples into the world

<b>Luke 15:1-10</b>	God leaves the 99 to seek the one lost and rejoices over one saved. God is serious about seeking the lost.
<b>1 Timothy 2:3-4</b>	God wants EVERYONE to be saved
<b>Revelation 5:9</b>	Jesus purchased people for God by your blood from every tribe and language and people and nation.
<b>Revelation 7:9</b>	There will be vast multitude from every nation, tribe, people, and language worshiping in heaven
<b>Revelation 22:1-5</b>	God will restore all things and He will be in heaven with all people from all nations
<b>2 Peter 3:9</b>	God is patient and doesn't want anyone to perish
<b>Matthew 28:18-20</b>	God commanded his disciples to go and make disciples of all nations, to baptize them and teach them to obey
<b>Acts 1:7-8</b>	We will have power from the Holy Spirit and we are to be witnesses locally, regionally and globally.
<b>2 Corinthians 5:18-21</b>	We are God's ambassadors with a message of reconciliation for all people

1. What are the basic desires of God for our world?

2. Jesus teaches his disciples to pray in Matthew 6:9-13. In verse 10 Jesus says to pray, *"Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven."* In light of these verses, what do you think it would look like if God's kingdom came and His will were done completely in your context (your family, neighborhood, city or region)? And what about for the world's 2 billion who have no access to the gospel?

## ***For Further Exploration***

Accessed 10.13.2020 from:

<https://www.ywam.org/get-involved-2/all-nations-verse-list/>

*The following Scripture references (New International Version) reveal God's heart for all ethnic groups: "all nations," "all peoples," "all mankind," "all creation," "every creature," "every knee," "every tongue," "men of every language," and "the world."*

**Genesis 12:3** – "I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and **all peoples on earth** will be blessed through you."

**Genesis 18:18** – "Abraham will surely become a great and powerful nation, and **all nations on earth** will be blessed through him."

**Genesis 22:18** – "...and through your offspring **all nations on earth** will be blessed, because you have obeyed me."

**Genesis 26:4** – "I will make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and will give them all these lands, and through your offspring **all nations on earth** will be blessed,..."

**Genesis 28:14** – "Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east, to the north and to the south. **All peoples on earth** will be blessed through you and your offspring."

**Exodus 9:16** – "But I have raised you up for this very purpose, that I might show you my power and that my name might be proclaimed in **all the earth**."

**Joshua 4:24** – "He did this so that **all the peoples of the earth** might know that the hand of the LORD is powerful and so that you might always fear the LORD your God."

**1 Kings 8:43** – "...then hear from heaven, your dwelling place, and do whatever the foreigner asks of you, so that **all the peoples of the earth** may know your name and fear you, as do your own people Israel, and may know that this house I have built bears your Name."

**1 Kings 8:60** – "...so that **all the peoples of the earth** may know that the LORD is God and that there is no other."

**1 Chronicles 16:23** – "Sing to the Lord, **all the earth**; proclaim his salvation day after day."

**1 Chronicles 16:24** – “Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among **all peoples.**”

**2 Chronicles 6:33** – “..then hear from heaven, your dwelling place, and do whatever the foreigner asks of you, so that **all the peoples of the earth** may know your name and fear you, as do your own people Israel, and may know that this house I have built bears your Name.”

**Psalms 2:8** – “Ask of me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, **the ends of the earth** your possession.”

**Psalms 22:27** – “**All the ends of the earth** will remember and turn to the LORD, and **all the families of the nations** will bow down before him,..”

**Psalms 33:8** – “Let **all the earth** fear the Lord; let **all the people of the world** revere him.”

**Psalms 47:1** – “Clap your hands, **all you nations**; shout to God with cries of joy.”

**Psalms 48:10** – “Like your name, O God, your praise reaches to **the ends of the earth**; your right hand is filled with righteousness.”

**Psalms 64:9** – “**All mankind** will fear; they will proclaim the works of God and ponder what he has done.”

**Psalms 67:2, 3** – “..that your ways may be known on earth, your salvation among **all nations.**”

**Psalms 67:7** – “God will bless us, and **all the ends of the earth** will fear him.”

**Psalms 72:11** – “All kings will bow down to him and **all nations** will serve him.”

**Psalms 72:17** – “May his name endure forever; may it continue as long as the sun. **All nations** will be blessed through him, and they will call him blessed.”

**Psalms 82:8** – “Rise up, O God, judge the earth, for **all the nations** are your inheritance.”

**Psalms 86:9** – “**All the nations** you have made will come and worship before you, O Lord; they will bring glory to your name.”

**Psalms 96:1** – “Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, **all the earth.**”

**Psalms 96:3** – “Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among **all peoples.**”

**Psalm 97:6** – “The heavens proclaim his righteousness, and **all the peoples** see his glory.”

**Psalm 98:3** – “He has remembered his love and his faithfulness to the house of Israel; **all the ends of the earth** have seen the salvation of our God.”

**Psalm 102:15** – “**The nations** will fear the name of the LORD, **all the kings of the earth** will revere your glory.”

**Psalm 117:1** – “Praise the LORD, **all you nations**; extol him, **all you peoples**.”

**Psalm 145:21** – “My mouth will speak in praise of the LORD. Let **every creature** praise his holy name for ever and ever.”

**Psalm 148:7, 11** – “Praise the Lord from the earth, ...kings of the earth and **all nations**, you princes and all rulers on earth,...

**Isaiah 2:2** – “In the last days the mountain of the LORD’s temple will be established as chief among the mountains; it will be raised above the hills, and **all nations** will stream to it.”

**Isaiah 25:6** – “On this mountain the LORD Almighty will prepare a feast of rich food for **all peoples**, a banquet of aged wine – the best of meats and the finest of wines.”

**Isaiah 25:7** – “On this mountain he will destroy the shroud that enfolds **all peoples**, the sheet that covers **all nations**;

**Isaiah 34:1** – “Come near, you nations, and listen; pay attention, **you peoples**! Let **the earth** hear, and **all that is in it, the world, and all that comes out of it!**”

**Isaiah 40:5** – “And the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and **all mankind** together will see it. For the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

**Isaiah 42:10** – “Sing to the Lord a new song, His praise from **the ends of the earth...**”

**Isaiah 43:6** – “I will say to the north, ‘Give them up!’ and to the south, ‘Do not hold them back.’ Bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the **ends of the earth**.”

**Isaiah 45:22** – “Turn to me and be saved, **all you ends of the earth**; for I am God, and there is no other.”

**Isaiah 45:23** – “By myself I have sworn, my mouth has uttered in all integrity a word that will not be revoked: Before me **every knee** will bow; by me **every tongue** will swear.”

**Isaiah 49:6** – “(The Lord) says: ‘It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring my salvation to the **ends of the earth.**’”

**Isaiah 52:10** – “The LORD will lay bare his holy arm in the sight of **all the nations**, and **all the ends of the earth** will see the salvation of our God.”

**Isaiah 56:7** – “..these I will bring to my holy mountain and give them joy in my house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house will be called a house of prayer for **all nations.**”

**Isaiah 61:11** – “For as the soil makes the sprout come up and a garden causes seeds to grow, so the Sovereign LORD will make righteousness and praise spring up before **all nations.**”

**Isaiah 66:18** – “And I, because of their actions and their imaginations, am about to come and gather **all nations and tongues**, and they will come and see my glory.”

**Isaiah 66:20** – “And they will bring all your brothers, from **all the nations**, to my holy mountain in Jerusalem as an offering to the LORD — ..”

**Isaiah 66:23** – “‘From one New Moon to another and from one Sabbath to another, **all mankind** will come and bow down before me,’ says the LORD.”

**Jeremiah 3:17** – “At that time they will call Jerusalem The Throne of the LORD, and **all nations** will gather in Jerusalem to honor the name of the LORD. No longer will they follow the stubbornness of their evil hearts.”

**Jeremiah 33:9** – “Then this city will bring me renown, joy, praise and honor before **all nations on earth** that hear of all the good things I do for it; and they will be in awe and will tremble at the abundant prosperity and peace I provide for it.”

**Ezekiel 39:21** – “I will display my glory among the nations, and **all the nations** will see the punishment I inflict and the hand I lay upon them.”

**Daniel 7:14** – “He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; **all peoples, nations and men of every language** worshipped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.”

**Zephaniah 2:11** – “The LORD will be awesome to them when he destroys all the gods of the land. The **nations on every shore** will worship him, **every one** in its own land.”

**Zephaniah 3:9** – “Then will I purify the lips of **the peoples**, that **all of them** may call on the name of the LORD and serve him shoulder to shoulder.”

**Haggai 2:7** – “‘I will shake **all nations**, and the desired of **all nations** will come, and I will fill this house with glory,’ says the LORD Almighty.”

**Zechariah 8:23** – “This is what the LORD Almighty says: ‘In those days ten men from **all languages and nations** will take firm hold of one Jew by the hem of his robe and say, “Let us go with you, because we have heard that God is with you.”’”

**Zechariah 9:10** – “I will take away the chariots from Ephraim and the war-horses from Jerusalem, and the battle bow will be broken. He will proclaim peace to the nations. His rule will extend from sea to sea and from the River to the **ends of the earth.**”

**Malachi 3:12** – “‘Then **all the nations** will call you blessed, for yours will be a delightful land,’ says the LORD Almighty.”

**Matthew 24:14** – “And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the **whole world** as a testimony to **all nations**, and then the end will come.”

**Matthew 28:19** – “Therefore go and make disciples of **all nations**, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit..”

**Mark 11:17** – “And as He taught them, He said, ‘Is it not written: “My house will be called a house of prayer for **all nations**“? ...” (Isaiah 56:7)

**Mark 13:10** – “And the gospel must first be preached to **all nations.**”

**Mark 13:27** – “And He will send His angels and gather His elect from the four winds, from the **ends of the earth** to the ends of the heavens.”

**Mark 16:15** – “He said to them, ‘Go into all the world and preach the good news to **all creation.**’”

**Luke 2:31, 32** – “‘which you have prepared in the sight of **all people**, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.’”

**Luke 3:6** – “And **all mankind** will see God’s salvation.”

**Luke 24:47** – “..and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to **all nations**, beginning at Jerusalem.”

**John 17:23** – “...to let **the world** know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.”

**Acts 1:8** – “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the **ends of the earth.**”

**Acts 2:17a** – “In the last days,’ God says, ‘I will pour out my Spirit on **all people.**”

**Acts 3:25b** – “He said to Abraham, ‘Through your offspring **all peoples** on earth will be blessed.’”

**Acts 10:35** – “..but accepts men from **every nation** who fear him and do what is right.”

**Acts 13:47** – “For this is what the Lord has commanded us: ‘I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the **ends of the earth.**”

**Romans 1:5** – “Through Him and for His name’s sake, we received grace and apostleship to call people from among **all the Gentiles** to the obedience that comes from faith.”

**Romans 14:11** – “It is written: “As surely as I live,” says the Lord, “**every knee** will bow before me; **every tongue** will confess to God.””

**Romans 15:11** – “And again, ‘Praise the Lord, **all you Gentiles**, and sing praises to him, **all you peoples.**”

**Romans 16:26** – “..but now revealed and made known through the prophetic writings by the command of the eternal God, so that **all nations** might believe and obey him– ..”

**Galatians 3:8** – “The Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and announced the gospel in advance to Abraham: ‘**All nations** will be blessed through you.’”

**Philippians 2:10, 11** – “that at the name of Jesus **every knee** should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and **every tongue** confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

**1 Timothy 2:3, 4** – “This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants **all men** to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.”

**2 Peter 3:9** – “The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but **everyone** to come to repentance.”

**1 John 2:2** – “He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the **whole world.**”

**Revelation 5:9** – “And they sang a new song: ‘You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased men for God from **every tribe and language and people and nation.**’”

**Revelation 7:9** – “After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from **every nation, tribe, people and language**, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands.”

**Revelation 12:5** – “She gave birth to a son, a male child, who will rule **all the nations** with an iron scepter. And her child was snatched up to God and to his throne.”

**Revelation 14:6** – “Then I saw another angel flying in midair, and he had the eternal gospel to proclaim to those who live on the earth– to **every nation, tribe, language and people.**”

**Revelation 15:4** – “Who will not fear you, O Lord, and bring glory to your name? For you alone are holy. **All nations** will come and worship before you, for your righteous acts have been revealed.”

*Scripture quotations taken from The Holy Bible, New International Version NIV.  
Copyright 1973, 1978, 1984 by Biblica, Inc. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.*