

SENDSUNDAY



Small Group Guide and Study Resources

PURPOSE

This guide is designed to help small groups reflect on what they experienced during Send Sunday and explore practical ways to live out the Great Commission. Whether your church focused on a specific passage or took a unique approach, this discussion will help participants process key themes and take next steps in missions involvement.

Discussion Outline

1. Opening Prayer (5 minutes)

Begin by inviting someone to open in prayer, asking God to give your group clarity, boldness, and a heart for the nations.

2. Reflecting on Send Sunday (10–15 minutes)

Discussion Questions:

- What was one thing that stood out to you from the Send Sunday message or service?
- Did anything challenge or convict you personally about missions or evangelism?
- How did the idea of your church being a “sending church” resonate with you?
- *Who in our church might God be calling to send out as a missionary? How can we support or encourage that person to pursue God’s call?*

3. Digging into Scripture (15–20 minutes)

Choose one or two of the following passages for group discussion, or ask a volunteer to read aloud:

- **Acts 13:1-3** (*The Holy Spirit sets apart workers to be sent by the local church.*)
Discussion: How does this passage show that sending missionaries is an act of worship and obedience for the church?
- **Matthew 28:18-20** (*The Great Commission: Go and make disciples of all nations.*)
Discussion: Jesus gave this command to all believers. What does it mean for you personally to “go” in your context?
- **Romans 10:13-15** (*How will they hear unless someone is sent?*)
- **Discussion:** Why is it essential for churches to raise up and send gospel workers?

4. Personal Application: Finding Your Role in the Great Commission (10–15 minutes)

Discussion Questions:

- How can we, as a small group, support missions more actively—whether through prayer, giving, or going?
- Have you ever considered that God might be calling you to be sent in some way—whether locally or globally?
- *Who else in our church should we encourage to step into a potential missions role?*
- What steps can you take this week to better engage with God’s mission for the world?

5. Practical Next Steps (5 minutes)

Encourage group members to take a specific next step:

- Attend a one-day missions conference hosted by your church or a nearby church. This is a great way to explore what sending and supporting missionaries looks like. Learn more [here](#).
- Find your place in the Great Commission by exploring opportunities to go, serve, or support missions through ABWE. Start [here](#).
- Enroll your church or small group to go through The Missions Course (themissionscourse.com) as a weekend intensive or a six-week study. This compelling group experience will help you see God’s heart for the nations from Genesis to Revelation and understand the church’s role in extending the gospel among all the peoples. Let them you know you found out about it through ABWE.



6. Closing Prayer (5 minutes)

Close by praying for the group, your church, and unreached people groups around the world. Ask the Lord to:

- Burden the church with a passion for missions and evangelism.
- Reveal individuals he is calling to be sent out.
- Give clarity and boldness to those wrestling with God’s call.
- Strengthen missionaries already serving in the field.

This guide is meant to be flexible—adapt the discussion flow or focus as needed based on your group’s experience with Send Sunday. The goal is to encourage reflection, foster deeper engagement with missions, and spark practical steps toward living out the Great Commission.

Additional Resources

To further equip your small group in understanding and participating in the sending aspect of the Great Commission, consider exploring the following resources:

1. ABWE's "Send" Resources

ABWE is dedicated to partnering with local churches to help send workers into God's global harvest. Their "Send" page offers a variety of resources, including articles, podcasts, and training events, designed to assist churches in sending and supporting missionaries effectively.

<https://abwe.org/send>



2. "Holding the Rope: How the Local Church Can Care for Its Sent Ones" by Ryan Martin

This book provides valuable insights into how local churches can actively support and care for their missionaries. Ryan Martin emphasizes the church's role in missionary care, offering practical guidance for congregations.

<https://www.amazon.com/Holding-Rope-Local-Church-Care/dp/1734370580>



3. "Serving As Senders Today" by Neal Pirollo

Neal Pirollo's classic work outlines the essential roles that supporters play in the missionary endeavor, providing a comprehensive guide for churches to care for their missionaries before, during, and after their time on the field.

<https://www.amazon.com/Serving-As-Senders-Neal-Pirollo/dp/1880185245>



4. The Missions Podcast

Hosted by Alex Kocman and Scott Dunford, this podcast addresses challenging questions related to theology, missions, and practice, providing valuable insights for both individuals and churches involved in missions.

<https://missionspodcast.com>

