

## Nations & Generations Recast 2023

*In this two week series we are going to reexamine and recommit to some specific goals we have as our way of making and growing followers of Jesus through our Nations & Generations vision.*

### Week 1: Asking for Nations

1. **GOD'S "NATIONS" AGENDA: Read Genesis 18:18.** Why is it important to remember that God's redemptive plan has always focused on the nations (ethnicities)?
2. ***The gospel's aim is to give God the global, multi-ethnic family He wants. Read Matthew 28:18-19.*** What role does our church play in this aim and what role do you have in participating in it personally? Follow up: **Read Revelation 7:9-10.** How can this glimpse of the future God wants (and will get) help us take more intentional steps towards that today?
3. **OUR "NATIONS" STATUS:**

**Goal 1: See 1825 people surrender to Christ and be baptized.** So far, we have witnessed **558 baptisms through the first 614 days of our vision.** Thank God for this and take a moment to pray for the "1's" you know who still need to surrender and take this next step.

**Goal 2: Become a multi-ethnic church.** Our recent survey revealed that we are **81% white** and **19%** people of other ethnicities. For those under 40 the number is **74% / 26%**. Take a moment to ask God to help us break down any walls in our hearts that make it hard for us to welcome people of all ethnicities.

**Goal 3: Be a church of at least 5 campuses. Campus #4 will launch in Dallas sometime in the first half of 2024.** Spend a few moments praying for this campus and help spread the word.

**Goal 4: Engage members as advocates for 25 asylum-seeking families or individuals in our community.** To date we have served 20 asylum-seeking families as advocates. They need 9 new advocates for 2024. Is this something God might be asking your group to do together?

**Goal 5: Help launch and/or support 15 new multi-ethnic church plants.** In the first two years of our vision, **we have helped plant 8 new churches.** Pray for our church plants.



**Goal 6: Support the Livingstone International University community in Uganda through prayer and by sending 20 members to teach, equip, and encourage.** We have sent 5 of our members so far. Is this something God might be asking you to do?

**Goal 7: Reach the unreached by launching and supporting 5 church planting movements and by supporting Bible translation efforts in 5 new languages.** We are currently supporting 4 of each of those. Praise God for the success in this area so far and for the seeds that are being planted.

4. Which of these seven goals resonate with you the most? Why? Follow up: If you have personally been involved in one of these goals already, share that experience. What has God been teaching you during this season of ministry?
5. Ask God this question, *What next step should I take to engage with one of these goals more in the next year?* Then take 1-2 minutes in silence listening for a response or an impression. Follow up: What is something God might be asking you to consider doing?
6. **THE “NATIONS” CHALLENGE:** *Everyone likes the idea of diversity more than the experience.* Why do you think that is so? **Read Acts 10:34-35.** What can we learn from Peter’s experience? Follow up: What are some practical ways you can reach out to people who are different from you? What is keeping you from taking these steps?
7. ***The multi-ethnic church displays the wisdom of God and declares the triumph of Christ.*** **Read Ephesians 3:10-11.** What encourages you the most from those verses? Follow up: Spend some time praying together as a group for God to give us the courage to do what He wants us to do.

