

## LEADER'S NOTES FOR ROOTED AND REACHING SERIES

Week of September 10, 2017

### OVERVIEW

The notes each week will align with Todd's application revealed in the message. The categories will often include the following:

- "Share it" – This is to give you something that everyone can talk about that also introduces the focus of the week.
- "Study the Bible" – This is an opportunity for people to dig in and see what God's Word reveals. These questions are not designed for you to discuss. It is your option. The greater focus of conversation is around the next section.
- "Discuss Together" – This is the conversational section. You can use these questions or come up with your own. They are designed to talk about life and application of the Scriptures and message. This should be a bulk of your time together.
- "Pray" – While it sounds easy enough, many people aren't used to praying out loud. That may come later. Be sure to allow people to talk about life, but avoid getting bogged down. The point is to pray, not just talk. As the season moves along, you will see a regular suggestion to pray about our role of "Reaching our worlds." This should become a normal over the next few months.
- "Apply it this week" – Like it sounds, there are suggestions of 'next steps' that help us begin to live out the applications. Sometimes you can use these as conversation starters for the following week.

### NOTES FOR THE WEEK

#### Share it

This week we will discuss the plot of the Bible. What are some key events in your own plotline?

**Notes to leaders: This is intentionally vague. Each person can share something that shaped their own life. People can talk about whatever they want. Key events in my own life could be coming to faith as an adult, marrying Diane, business experience, a car wreck, etc.**

#### Study the Bible

Read each selection and write a few words in the plot.

1. Genesis 1:27, 31 – Example: God's creation of us was "very good" and very personal
2. Genesis 3:1-7 – **Both man and woman disobeyed God. This infected all of humanity.**
3. Romans 3:23 – **All people sin and have sinned.**
4. John 3:16,17 – **God loves us. He made us to know and live with Him forever. God's plan for righteous judgment was to send His Son, Jesus Christ, to die in our place. This would save us from facing the wrath we deserved and make possible reconciliation.**
5. Romans 3:24-25 – **We are justified (which means to be 'declared righteous') by grace (undeserved merit) that came through Jesus Christ. He both paid our price and gave us His own righteousness.**

6. Ephesians 2:8 – **We enter into Jesus’ provision of grace through faith (this means to believe in Jesus – to trust in Him as our Savior through what He did on the cross and then rose from the dead. There are no works of our own that can achieve this.**
7. John 14:3 – **Jesus went to be His Father after appearing to His followers. He promised that He will come again to this earth, bring believers who have died, and gather believers who haven’t died. Then we will live with Him forever.**

### **Discuss Together**

This week’s main point is, “Keeping the plot of the Bible central in your life will transform the way you live.” What are your thoughts about this statement? How is each part of the plot important?

**Notes to leaders: This is only the first week. I wouldn’t expect people to know all the parts of this plot. The main thing is that God has a master plan. It is revealed throughout history and kept for us in Scripture. You can abbreviate this story in many ways.**

What happens in life that makes it difficult to keep this central in our lives?

**Notes to leaders: There are so many attractions, distractions that dilute our focus on the main thing. In addition, sin overtakes us, people hurt one another, etc.**

What in our culture makes it difficult to keep the main thing the main thing?

**Notes to leaders: One of my own observations is that I want too much – I try to do too much and don’t keep the joy of my salvation and mission the main focus. Also, what we own begins to own us. So much of life becomes about obtaining and maintaining things.**

What would help us keep God’s plans central?

**Notes to leaders: There are many possible answers. Here are a few:**

- **Reading and rereading the Scripture to marvel at God’s goodness**
- **Staying close to other believers who are passionate about Jesus**
- **Learning the plotline well and passing it on to friends**

**Grace to you,  
Steve**

### **CALENDAR NOTES**

**September 23** – This is a Saturday event especially for leaders. Tom Mercer, Senior Pastor of High Desert Church, is doing a special seminar for you. Tom has been influential in churches across America. He is coming as a special favor to Todd Arnett. I have given Todd your names to make sure that you get invited because of your leadership. Please do all you can to come. I have been to this seminar – it is very insightful and game changing. Thank you.

### **SPECIAL PRAYER REQUESTS**

Please pray for our church as we journey through a focus on why we are here. Todd has been thinking about Trinity and our purpose for months. Please pray about our response to God’s mission and Todd leadership.