



## MISSIONS

### SESSION 4: RELIEF, REHABILITATION & DEVELOPMENT



#### IN THIS SESSION

We will devote space to identifying the three (3) distinct positions of need in any given culture (relief, rehabilitation and development) and offer suggested ways to operate productively as Christ's ambassadors in each.



#### KEY PASSAGES

- **Romans 15:1-3** <sup>1</sup> We who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak and not to please ourselves. <sup>2</sup> Each of us should please our neighbors for their good, to build them up. <sup>3</sup> For even Christ did not please himself but, as it is written: "The insults of those who insult you have fallen on me." <sup>4</sup> For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope.
- **Galatians 6:9-10** <sup>9</sup> Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. <sup>10</sup> Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.



#### DISCUSS

- If you were preparing to engage in cross-cultural missions (or if you are presently), how would you go about avoiding the pitfalls of misinterpreting the stage of need in another culture? In other words, how would you keep from "putting the local cobbler out of business" as you prepared to reach them? What are some resources at your disposal that would help you identify the true need of that people-group and respond in a way that would build trust, promote genuine flourishing and create a clear pathway for the gospel?
- "We are not doing something *to* them or *for* them; we are doing things *with* them." How does this statement change the way you approach missions in a "hands on" sense? If you were in the position of great need, how would you respond to this approach versus a group that just seemed to be giving you a "handout?" Talk about these differences and how they relate to your motivation for action in missions.
- Consider your own city and region as you process through the *relief, rehabilitation & development* paradigm. What are some opportunities and gospel-centered partners available to you that you might investigate? Be encouraged to write them down and commit to pray about your potential involvement.



#### PRAY

Pray that God would continue to develop your love for others in a way that considers their setting and their needs as you serve them. Ask the Lord for partnering opportunities with solid, gospel-centered organizations to which he might be leading you.