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Study Questions

The Unstoppable Church

Generations in The Unstoppable Church – Part II

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Bible Study

1. It has been nearly 2000 years since Jesus walked the earth spending all His days in a small geographic region in an obscure Roman province. In those two thousand years, the population on earth has grown tremendously. Yet, as the video in the worship services showed, the ratio of believers to those who are still without Christ's salvation has drastically reduced. Why? How do you account for the amazing growth of the Church throughout the world?
2. In our study of Acts, thus far, there is recorded opposition, persecution, and/or attempts to stop the spread of the Church in all of the following chapters: Acts 4, 5, 7, 8, 12, 14, 16, 17, 19 and 20. In addition, the early Church faced internal challenges as we've seen in Acts 5, 11, and 15. In spite of all these things, why did the early disciples keep going?

Why did they persevere in seeking to share Christ, spread the Gospel, and establish the Church in spite of such opposition?

3. Throughout Church history there have also been periods of intense opposition—both from without and within. Why has the Gospel and the Church faced such continued antagonism through the centuries?
4. What should we learn about the present and future based on the lessons of Church history?

How should these realities affect us as the Church in the 21st Century?
5. Have you ever considered how it is that you know about Christ? How did the Gospel get from the upper room in Jerusalem to your house in Lincoln?
6. Briefly share your spiritual lineage with one another. Who shared Christ with you? Who shared Christ with them? How far back can you go?
7. Read 2 Timothy 2:1-4. What does verse 2 tell us about the human process God used to take the Gospel from generation to generation over the last 2000 years?
8. How many generations are represented in 2 Timothy 2:2? Look carefully and count the number of generations of influence of which Paul speaks.
9. What does this verse suggest about how the Gospel will go to the billions of people on earth who still daily live without God and without hope?
10. Why does Paul share verses 3 and 4 right on the heels of verse 2?

How do the implications of verse 4 relate to the probability of verse 2 actually occurring?

11. How do these dynamics (verse 2 versus verse 4) play out in your own life?

Application

1. How does the mission of the Church and the testimony of Church history line up with the American dream and the hope of people in our country today?
2. As believers in Christ, where should our hope be?
3. As an individual where is your hope?

Do you personally struggle with hoping for and trusting in the good things of earth rather than the promises of Christ? If so, how?

What are some areas where you are tempted to put your hope?

What are some aspects of this world in which you are tempted to find your joy?

4. Why are these hopes vain hopes—why will these things never truly satisfy?
5. What, specifically, can you do this week to cultivate a deeper sense of trust and hope in Christ and His eternal promises as opposed to trusting in the deceptive and fleeting promises of this world?