

**Missions Sunday 2024—
Fanning the Flame: God's Work Among Bhutanese & Nepali People
Small Group Discussion Questions**

Join our congregation for worship in-person or online at 10:30 am each Sunday via our [Grantham Church YouTube Channel](#). If you ever miss a message, the sermons are always posted to the [recent sermons page](#) at our website and at the [Grantham Church Podcast](#) the following day, along with the sermon slides and small group discussion questions under Worship Resources. Thank you for staying connected with us!

Sunday, November 17th, 2024



Theme: Today is Missions Sunday 2024. Our theme this year: *Fanning the Flame: God's Work Among the Bhutanese and Nepali People*. This annual event includes a combined Learning Community at 9:00 am, worship service at 10:30 am, and a lunch following the service. Thank you for joining us as we give attention to how the Spirit is working among the Bhutanese and Nepali immigrant population in our area.

Sermon Title: Fanning the Flame!

Scripture Reading: Judges 2:10; Psalm 145:3-5; Matthew 28:18-20

Sermon Focus: Amid a constantly progressing world, where change is often seen as progress, God wants to remind us today—through the stories in the Bible from the lives of Abraham, Joseph, and Moses, and even through the story of Bhutanese and Nepali refugees—that He is faithful, even when we don't see it clearly. He has never changed! In today's message, Pastor Royal Rai shares his migration story from a refugee camp in Bhutan to greater Harrisburg where he is planting Ignite Church with a vision to reach future generations of the Bhutanese and Nepali community.

Thank you for going deeper in conversation with your small group. Use the following questions to help *guide* your small group discussion:

1. In the service we heard from Shemlal Hembrom, the leader of the BIC Church in Nepal. Shemlal said that people in Nepal “are open to the gospel because of unstable government and because people are tired of worldly things.” He said that they need to take advantage of the opportunities that this presents for the church to openly share the gospel with their neighbors. Might there be a word from God to us about our own socio-political situation in America? Do you think we’ve been seeing our own instability and tensions as a gospel opportunity? If not, why not? Discuss ways that we might need to change or grow in this area?
2. Thousands of Bhutanese/Nepali refugees and immigrants have been coming to the United States, and many of them are accepting Christ in their suffering and then relocation to America. Have you ever noticed how God uses these things to spread the gospel and grow the church? Why do you think persecuted and oppressed people take a different view than many Christians in America when it comes to our trials, hardships, socio-political instability, etc.? What can we learn from them? What can our immigrant brothers and sisters teach us?
3. Pastor Royal pointed out the biblical pattern of scattering and gathering (e.g., Abraham, Joseph, Moses, etc.), particularly through hardships and persecution. He said that it’s hard to see what God is doing through these challenges unless we “zoom out” and see the bigger story of God’s redemptive plan. How have you experienced this in the difficulties of your own life? Looking back (or zoomed out), how can you see things now that you couldn’t see then? Also, how might this apply to our current cultural climate and political events in America?
4. Pastor Royal named the following as common struggles of Bhutanese and Nepali immigrants: (1) identity crisis; (2) isolation; and (3) idolatry. It’s not hard to see or imagine why this would be the case for folks in their situation. But did you notice that we are currently dealing with these same challenges in America. In what ways do you see these three struggles being an issue for Christians? Take some time to discuss each one in detail and give specific examples.
5. Overall, what encouraged or challenged you about Missions Sunday? What is God saying to you? What do you think he is saying to us? After some discussion, close in prayer for Ignite Church. Also, pray for our partnership with Ignite as they explore the possibility of joining the BIC at some point in the future.