

## LOCAL WORLD

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Jesus said in Mark 16:15 to go into all the world and preach the gospel. Now, if you know me at all, you would know that giving me a huge task like that with multiple objectives would make my mind explode. I think my wife, on the other hand, could do take it on. God gave this command to His disciples because He trusted them to take the gospel to the world. That is what brings me to my thought on the “local world.”

The Local World is simply the world you live in, the relationships you have, the job you work at, the place you go out to eat to every week (if you are like me, I go to just about the same places), and college campuses you study at. Your local world is the world you live in. My vision is that I will change the world God has called me to live in, which happens to be Manchester, Connecticut. To be even more specific, God has opened doors for our Hyphen group, Elevate, at a local community college and high school, enabling us to teach Bible studies there. I work at a real estate office; Elevate goes out to eat to the same restaurant every week and we see the same staff; I am even a part-time Uber driver. That is my world right now, and I must take advantage of every opportunity in that world.

I think sometimes I get so overwhelmed with trying to reach the big picture of Elevate Student Ministry that I forget about the little pieces that make up the big picture of what God is going to do and is doing in Elevate. My job is to take a piece at a time and fit it into the frame of the big picture God has designed. For example, we have reached three students at this one campus, and sometimes I get down on myself because we aren't having explosive growth. Then God reminds me of the importance of those three students involved in Bible studies. God sees hard work and blesses it. I must take that piece God has given me and fit it into the big picture of my world.

God has called you to reach your local world. Realize that the small things you do in your small world will make an eternal difference in His kingdom. God will bring growth to your Hyphen group when you decide you are going to change your local world. When you make a difference in your world, you are making a difference in the whole world!