

3/08/2026 Life Group Notes Mark Warren Formed On Mission Week 1

No doctrine is a given unless it has been found in the Word given by the Holy Spirit and received by you. If you have observations or questions, feel free to send me an email with your comment or observations at tbeachhead@comcast.net. Thank you for taking the time.

– *Pete Mehegan, the Scribe.*

Remember: Be good to one another. Be sensitive and kind. Let God heal our heart and guide our discussions.

Leaders: *please pre-read these notes and choose the direction that is appropriate for your group. Scan the detailed questions that follow the AI-generated study questions, to see if you want to add any more detailed questions.*

Be cognizant of your group's time and be sensitive. *Some groups would like to dwell on a single idea. Let the Spirit be your guide. Never feel obligated to complete this study.*

Note: I have highlighted suggested discussion questions that Pastor Mark has raised this week, 3/8. Let's allow the Holy Spirit to guide all our discussions, using the highlights as trail blazes. ***The purpose is to minister to one another***

Important: At [the very end of these notes](#), I've included passages that were mentioned in this week's message for deeper study using SOAP journaling to help further your study during the week.

This format begins with a summary of the notes, followed by study questions. This week, notes in full detail can be found beginning on page 3:

Section I: Summary

Here's "co-pilot's" AI summary of the Sermon Lifegroup Notes

Pastor Mark taught that God does not merely send believers on mission; He forms them through mission. Living on mission is not just about doing good works or participating in outreach, but about allowing God to reshape our hearts, vision, and character as we step into the brokenness of the world. Mission is transformational, both for those being served and for those who serve.

He emphasized that the heart of mission begins with seeing. When we truly see suffering, division, injustice, and need, compassion is awakened, and action follows. Mission does not start with plans or strategies but with spiritual sight—learning to notice what God notices and responding with love. This kind of seeing leads believers to become agents of reconciliation, helping bring healing where people and communities have been divided.

Pastor Mark illustrated that God's desire is not for believers to receive blessing without giving it away. When life, resources, or spiritual abundance are hoarded, they stagnate.

But when blessings flow outward to refresh others, life, renewal, and joy increase. Generosity and obedience release spiritual vitality, while self-focus leads to emptiness. He shared a powerful testimony of how stepping back into places of need led to personal healing and renewed purpose. As compassion turned into action—serving the poor, rebuilding communities, and caring for the vulnerable—both physical and emotional restoration followed. This demonstrated that God often brings healing to His people as they participate in His work of restoration.

The message also highlighted that believers are not the heroes of the mission—God is. Our role is to follow what God is already doing, responding in humility and obedience. As we move toward need, God corrects and sharpens our vision, aligning our hearts with His. Mission forms believers into people who reflect God’s compassion, justice, and love in practical ways.

Pastor Mark concluded by challenging listeners to ask what is on God’s heart in their own workplaces, schools, and neighborhoods, and to take tangible steps toward repair, healing, and restoration. Living formed on mission means allowing God to shape our lives as we serve others and join Him in bringing light into broken places.

Section II: Study questions

Formed on Mission – Week 1 (Pastor Mark Warren)

1. Opening Reflection & Orientation (5–7 minutes)

Purpose: Warm up the group and center the conversation.

1. When you hear the phrase “**formed on mission**,” what initially comes to mind?
2. Pastor said we are not just called *to* mission, but *formed by* mission.
 - How is that different from simply “doing ministry” or “helping others”?
3. Have you ever participated in a mission experience (local or global)?
 - Did it change anything in you?

2. Seeing and Compassion (10–12 minutes)

Purpose: Explore the idea that mission begins with sight.

1. Pastor observed that **mission starts with seeing, not strategy**.
 - What does it mean to truly see people rather than overlook them?
2. When Jesus looked at crowds, He was moved with compassion.
 - What do you think He noticed that others missed?
3. What tends to prevent us from seeing need clearly in our daily lives?
4. Can you recall a time when seeing someone’s situation changed how you responded?

3. Reconciliation & Repair (10–12 minutes)

Purpose: Engage the call to healing broken places.

1. Pastor described reconciliation as stopping to help what has been divided come back together.
 - Where do you see division or brokenness around you right now?
2. Why do you think reconciliation is especially important in this season?
3. What does it cost us personally to step into places of tension or hurt?

4. In what ways can reconciliation be lived out practically, not just talked about?

4. Blessing That Flows Outward (10 minutes)

Purpose: Reflect on generosity, stagnation, and spiritual vitality.

1. Pastor contrasted receiving blessing versus allowing blessing to flow through us.
 - What happens spiritually when blessing stops with us?
1. Why do you think generosity brings life, while withholding leads to emptiness?
2. How have you seen giving—time, compassion, or resources—bring renewal either to yourself or others?

5. Formation Through Obedience (10–12 minutes)

Purpose: Focus on transformation that happens when we step into need.

1. The testimony shared showed that healing and clarity came *after* stepping into mission.
 - Why do you think obedience often precedes understanding or healing?
1. Pastor shared the formation principle:

“When we step into places of need, God corrects our vision.”

 - What might God be correcting or reshaping in us through mission?
1. Why is it important to remember that **we are not the heroes—Jesus is**?
2. How does humility protect us from burnout or pride in serving others?

6. Personal Application & Closing Prayer (8–10 minutes)

Purpose: Move from discussion to action.

1. What do you sense might be **on God’s heart** in your workplace, school, or neighborhood?
2. What is one need you are beginning to see more clearly?
3. What is one small, realistic step you could take this week to move toward that need?
4. How can this group support one another in living “formed on mission”?

Close in prayer, asking God to:

- Sharpen your vision
- Grow compassion
- Give courage to step into need
- Form each person through obedience and love

Optional Facilitator Tip

If time runs short, dwell deeply on **one question** rather than rushing. The goal is not completion, but **formation**.

Section III: Complete study notes

Pastor reviewed his time in Rwanda.

1. What do you know of the nation?
2. What do you remember of Pastor’s words?
3. He says, “We are not just called to a mission, we are formed by mission.” Explain.
4. Have you ever gone on a mission? Do you have a testimony?

5. How did you see things differently after that mission?
6. Take a moment to pray for each other, and for these times, according to the news of the day.

Pastor began by describing what it means to be “on mission.”

He says, “‘Formed on mission’ begins to captivate us to realize that we do not just ‘go on mission,’ that we are not just ‘living life on mission,’ but God wants to do something in our own life as we pursue the mission of God on this earth.”

1. What does he mean?
2. When Jesus told us to pray, “Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven,” he’s saying, “When we begin to look around and see the brokenness of this world, the pain and the polarization, we are to become ministers of reconciliation.” Explain.
3. What is different between how God’s will is being done on earth compared to how it is being done in heaven?
4. What will be the outcome with that prayer, if we pray without ceasing, and do not lose hope? What changes around us?

Pastor evoked a family of turkeys split by a roadway as cars cruise by. He said, “Reconciliation is the driver that stops his car so that the chicks can cross and rejoin the mother on the other side of the road.” He says, “This is the ministry of reconciliation. We are to bring healing to those broken places, and allow those who have been split to come back together.”

1. What do you see?
2. How important is this ministry in this hour? Why?

Read attentively Isaiah 58: ⁶*Isn't this the fast that I have chosen: to break the chains of wickedness, to untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and tear off every yoke? ⁷Isn't it to share your bread with the hungry, to bring the poor and homeless into your home, to clothe the naked when you see him, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood? ⁸Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and your healing will come quickly. Your righteousness will go before you, and the glory of the LORD will be your rear guard. ⁹Then you will call, and the LORD will answer; you will cry out, and He will say, 'Here I am.' If you remove the yoke from your midst, the pointing of the finger and malicious talk, ¹⁰and if you give yourself to the hungry and satisfy the afflicted soul, then your light will go forth in the darkness, and your night will be like noonday. ¹¹The LORD will always guide you; He will satisfy you in a sun-scorched land and strengthen your frame. You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail. ¹²Your people will rebuild the ancient ruins; you will restore the age-old foundations; you will be called Repairer of the Breach, Restorer of the Streets of Dwelling. ¹³If you turn your foot from breaking the Sabbath, from doing as you please on My holy day, if you call the Sabbath a delight, and the LORD's holy day honorable, if you honor it by not going your own way or seeking your own pleasure or speaking idle words, ¹⁴then you will delight yourself in the LORD, and I will make you ride on the heights of the land and feed you with the heritage of your father Jacob.”*

1. What do you see?
2. List the things we must do, outlined here, in a fast.
3. List each of the benefits, as each of our steps unfolds.

4. Look at verses 7 and 10 above. Which of Jesus' parables do these verses evoke?
5. Whose job is it to restore and rebuild? What steps are necessary?

Pastor then spoke of the difference between the Sea of Galilee and the Dead Sea. Both have the same source, waters that flow into the Dead Sea come down the Jordan River through Galilee.

1. What is the difference in life?
2. Why is the difference so pronounced.
3. What happens when one is blessed abundantly, and yet does not offer in return?
4. Look up Proverbs 11: ²⁴ One gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds what is right, only to become poor. ²⁵ *A generous soul will prosper, and he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed.* What do you see?
5. In the light of this proverb, explain the Dead Sea.

Pastor told the story of a Rwandan woman who emigrated to NH. When she got here, instead of enjoying freedom and abundance, she was met with depression and sickness. When she implored God to know why she was suffering this way, the Lord reminded her of the people she had left behind, the broken, the hurting, the poor. So, she started the Rwandan Children's Education Foundation, and she found people in NH who would help to sponsor Rwandan children, in Rwanda where they are charged a fee, to be able to go to school. She found, as she became involved in raising funds and awareness for others, her sickness and her depression began to lift.

1. What do you see in this story.
2. Connect this testimony to the verses we just read from Isaiah and Proverbs.
3. How real are the promises of Isaiah 58? Can they be taken literally?
4. Look at Matthew 9: ³⁵ *Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness.* ³⁶ When He saw the crowds, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. What did Jesus see?
5. Look at Matthew 14: ¹³ *When Jesus heard about John, He withdrew by boat privately to a solitary place. But the crowds found out about it and followed Him on foot from the towns.* ¹⁴ When He stepped ashore and saw a large crowd, He had compassion on them and healed their sick. What did Jesus see?
6. What do you see? Thinking of the parable of the Good Samaritan as we saw it a few weeks ago, what did Jesus do instead of crossing to the other side of the street when He saw the crowds?
7. In this light, can you discuss and explain the cost of discipleship?
8. Pastor observes, "Missions do not begin with strategies. Mission starts with sight." Looking at the above passages of the Bible, explain what Pastor means by this. What happens when we start to see? What do we actually see?

Going back to the Rwandan/NH woman's testimony, Pastor related that she returned to Rwanda part time at a time where rains were making shelter unsafe. Seeing the homelessness that was increasing, with the funds she was raising, she built thirteen homes. Because a young mother died in labor trying to get to a hospital on the back of a motorcycle, she also built a hospital. Then she built a church.

1. What do you see in this part of the story?

2. How does it relate to the scripture we've seen?
3. How do you actually fit into this story?
4. What can be learned from this?
5. Trace this woman's vision from the time she left Rwanda for New Hampshire to where Pastor met with her two weeks ago. How did it evolve?

† **Formation principle: When we step into places of need, God corrects our vision.**

Look at John 5:¹⁹*So Jesus replied, "Truly, truly, I tell you, the Son can do nothing by Himself, unless He sees the Father doing it. For whatever the Father does, the Son also does. ²⁰The Father loves the Son and shows Him all He does. And to your amazement, He will show Him even greater works than these. ²¹For just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so also the Son gives life to whom He wishes.*

1. What do you see?
2. How does this apply to the Rwandan woman and her experience?
3. How does this apply to us and our vision?
4. Why is it important to remember that we are not the heroes, but Jesus is? Explain.
5. Could you live your life in a 10X10 house with a dirt floor? Have you ever?

† **What is on the Father's heart in my workplace, my school and my neighborhood.**

1. Make a note of needs. What can you do about it?
2. What is God doing today?
3. Look back at Isaiah 58 above: What are the steps to bring light to your situation?
4. What are steps in repairing the breach in a wall?

Take the time to pray.

Follow up application:

1. Use the **Soap study below** to pursue your own understanding.
2. List what it will take to start seeing the needs in your workplace, your school and your neighborhood.
3. List the needs you start to see.

For further study:

Take a moment each day this week to apply the **SOAP method** (**S**cripture—Copy the scripture. / **O**bservation—Write what you see. / **A**pplication—Write what God is saying. / **P**ray—Write what your response is.) to some of the scripture we looked at this week:

Monday: Isaiah 58:6-8
Tuesday: Isaiah 58:9-11
Wednesday: Isaiah 58:12-14
Thursday: Proverbs 11:24-25
Friday: Matthew 14:13-14
Saturday: Matthew 9:35-36
Sunday: John 5:19-21