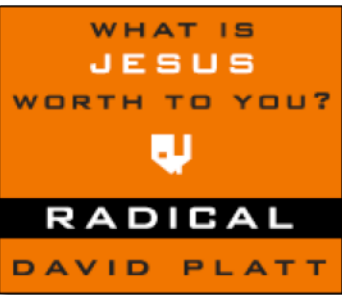


## **Chapter 9: The Radical Experiment**

“One year to a life turned upside down”

**BE INTENTIONAL and GET SPECIFIC.** Consider David Platt’s challenge on pp. 218-219. Will you commit to a one-year experiment of radical living according to the gospel? Talk about the five components of this experiment. Discuss how this might look in your life using the five categories outlined in the book:

- **Pray for the entire world**
    - Read Matthew 9:36-38. What is Jesus asking the disciples to pray about? Does it surprise you that when surrounded by extreme human need Jesus asks the disciples to pray, not act? Why, or why not?
    - Platt says that prayer is *“the step that you and I are most likely to overlook and yet the one that is most dangerous for us to ignore”* (p. 187). What sorts of things do you observe that provide anecdotal evidence this statement is true?
    - What does praying for the entire world involve? Can you think of ways to accomplish this goal?
  - **Read through the entire Word**
    - Why do you think reading the Bible from cover to cover is classified as radical? (See p. 193)
    - How do you think reading the entire Bible in a year would change you? What challenges do you anticipate in this undertaking?
    - What things can you clear from your schedule to make time for this?
  - **Sacrifice your money for a specific purpose**
    - What is the difference between giving and sacrificing?
    - Is it realistic for you to set a cap on your lifestyle – in this case, for one year? Why, or why not? Discuss some things you could give up, give away or go without altogether for the sake of giving to the needy.
    - Talk about the four factors Platt suggests we consider when giving our money (see pp. 196-197).
  - **Spend your time in another context**
    - What do you think it means to spend time in another context?
    - How is your physical presence sometimes more effective in meeting needs than simply your money?
    - If you have been on a work and witness trip, how did it affect your thinking?
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- What steps can you take this year to spend time in another context? Who could you partner with? Where might you go?
- Is it realistic for you commit 2% of your time (about a week) this year to making the gospel known outside your own city? If not, how much time will you give?
- **Commit your life to a multiplying community**
  - Briefly describe what is meant by a 'multiplying community.'
  - How do, as Platt suggests, the first four challenges converge in this last one – committing your life to a multiplying community?
  - Based on the content and study of this book, how might you respond to someone who says, "I don't have to go to church or be part of a church family to be a Christian"?
    - Why do we need a community to follow Christ radically?
    - What are the helpful benefits of sharing this radical life together?

**NOTES:**

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