



David Ro – The astonishing ways God is working in & through Chinese Christians today

College and University Class Resource

This resource is designed to help your classroom discussion. It has specific application questions appropriate to local church ministry contexts. Questions are ideal for paired discussions, group-forum style discussions, and personal reflective responses. Consider using a discussion method most suitable to your classroom setting. Select questions most appropriate to your group. Consider isolating particular themes.

Materials

1. Video: David Ro, 25 minutes.
2. Theme: The astonishing ways God is working in & through Chinese Christians today.

Preliminary discussion

1. What were the major themes in David Ro's responses?
2. How does Ro describe God's work in China today?
3. Discuss the difficulties of the content. What was difficult to understand? Was there anything you would like to clarify with the group?
4. Theological method: How is Ro's theology informed and shaped by his practical ministry? What approaches does he take in understanding God in the context of his day-to-day experiences and discipling?

Explore and apply

Consider isolating a particular theme of interest for your classroom discussion. You might allocate topics for questions to particular groups or pairs. Or, raise particular questions in a forum style for group responses. Apply the answers to these questions in your own setting.

1. David Ro is the Director for the Christy Wilson Mission Center at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary as well as the International Deputy Director for the Lausanne movement in East Asia. What are his roles at those places?
2. Why is he passionate about mission and ministry in East Asia, and in China in particular?
3. What is “Mission China 2030”?
4. We often hear about the extraordinary growth of the church in China. What does Ro say that God is doing in the church in China today?
5. What can Western churches learn from the churches of China and East Asia?
6. How are Chinese evangelicals communicating the gospel today?
7. What are Chinese people looking for today, spiritually and socially?
8. What are the challenges for the church in China today?
9. How are Chinese churches responding to these challenges?
10. How are the Chinese churches relating to and impacting both rural and urban areas and populations?
11. How are Chinese Christians beginning to influence global Christian conversations today?
12. What do Chinese Christians teach us about fearlessness and courage and perseverance and more?
13. What did you learn from the stories David Ro told about the Chinese churches?
14. What is most misunderstood about the Chinese church today?
15. How is the Chinese church going, as it seeks to reach new Chinese wealthy urban intellectuals?
16. How are Chinese Christians exploring mission today, in their region and further afield?
17. How is the multiplication of churches happening in China today?
18. How can Western and Eastern Christians connect with the exciting movement of God in China today?
19. What are some practical ways we can learn more about the Chinese churches today, and partner with them?

Classroom ministry

Facilitate an opportunity for students to respond to the video in light of the classroom discussion. Consider inviting students to write their responses to the following questions.

1. What is God encouraging our class and me, to do?
2. In response to the issues raised in the video, what are areas I want to ask God for forgiveness in? How do I need to change? What does God want me to stand up for?
3. How do I need God to minister to me and my community, for us to better engage with the contextual issues of our community?
4. How can I gain a better understanding of church life in China today? What do we ask that God would do in our hearts?

Prayer

Spend time in prayer over what you've learnt. You may encourage your class to pray for one another. Or, in light of your discussion, you may choose to pray over your class.

Links

Website: www.theglobalchurchproject.com

Book: Graham Hill, *GlobalChurch: Reshaping Our Conversations, Renewing Our Mission, Revitalizing Our Churches* (IVP Academic, 2016)