

Host Toolkit for

Kingdom Stories:

A gathering centered around the real, unfolding stories of God at work.

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Event Purpose

Kingdom Stories: Evening gatherings centered around the real, unfolding stories of God at work

Kingdom Stories is a salon-style dinner designed to invite friends and potential partners into the global mission of TMS Global through an elegant, story-driven experience. With compelling testimonies, engaging discussion, and a clear call to action, this gathering offers guests a chance to invest in God's work through generous giving.

These events are hosted in homes, private dining rooms, or curated venues and center around a beautiful meal, authentic conversation, and a bold invitation to give.

Event Goals

- Inspire financial partnership in support of TMS Global's mission.
- Build relational connection between TMS Global, hosts, and guests.
- Cultivate future ambassadors and investors in God's global mission.

Host Responsibilities

- Pray for God's guidance as you're planning. Ask Him to bring to mind the people you should invite to this meaningful gathering.
- Plan the gathering by selecting a date, time and location.
- Test all the technology in advance to ensure that you can play videos during the event.
- Use the suggested agenda to plan your gathering in a way that best suits your context.
- Develop your guest list and personally invite people to join you.
- Provide appetizers and dinner.
- Download free printables and request any physical items you need mailed to you such as response cards or reply envelopes. Place materials around the room.
- Welcome guests and facilitate the timely flow of the evening using this guide.
- Ask guests to prayerfully consider how they can get engaged and close in prayer. (Talking points provided.)
- Send out thank you notes after the event.
- Inform TMS Global of attendee list and any follow-up requested.

Hospitality

- Host in a personal, comfortable setting. A private dining room, home, or club works beautifully—aim for an environment that feels warm and inviting.
- Offer a well-prepared or catered meal. A seated dinner with thoughtfulness around food and presentation adds to the experience. Choose a menu that suits your group seasonal, family-style, plated, or chef-prepared.
- Curate the ambiance. Use soft lighting (candles or lamps), background music (instrumental or ambient), and a warmly decorated table to create a welcoming feel. A printed menu or table flowers can add a lovely touch.
- Greet each guest personally. Introduce guests to one another—connection is the goal.
- Provide printed materials in a way that fits your space and flow. Some hosts prefer to
 place items like name cards, response cards, gift impact menus, and conversation
 prompts at each seat. Others may choose to present them in a small folder, gift bag, or
 place them in a designated spot for guests to pick up as they transition between dinner
 and the program. Do what works best for your setting—but ensure each guest can easily
 access these materials when the time comes.
- Honor people's time. Keep the evening within the 100-minute window, flowing gently from conversation to content to response.

Event Invitations

Invitation Options:

- Mail an invitation in a handwritten envelope
- Personal phone call
- Personal text
- Personalized email
- Handwritten note or card (for high-touch outreach)
- Private message on Facebook or Instagram
- Evite or digital RSVP page (for larger group invites)
- Shareable branded graphic (available for download)

Sample Invitation Language:

Option 1 – Personal Text

Hi [NAME], I'm hosting an intimate dinner called *Kingdom Stories* to share some powerful stories from a faith-based nonprofit I love—TMS Global. It's a meaningful evening with great food, deep conversation, and a chance to explore how we can invest in the gospel together.

It's happening on [DAY, DATE] at [TIME] at [LOCATION]. I'd love for you to come. Can I make you a place card?

Option 2 – Email or Social Post

I'm excited to invite you to a unique event called *Kingdom Stories: Evening gatherings centered* around the real, unfolding stories of God at work. Over a shared meal, we'll hear powerful stories of transformation a nonprofit I love called TMS Global, and take part in a 200-year-old tradition known as a Jeffersonian Dinner—where one table, one topic, and one conversation create space for deep connection.

Together, we'll reflect on what it means to join Jesus in His mission, and explore how we can invest in something with eternal impact.

I would be so grateful if you could carve out time for this intimate gathering. Please RSVP so I can make your place card. I'd love to see you there!

When: [DAY, DATE]

Time: [TIME]

Location: [HOST HOME / VENUE]

Free printables to download for your event

The following printables can be found online at www.tms-global.org/dinnertoolkit

- Invitation graphics
- Table Prompt Cards
- Table tents with QR codes to our secure online giving page
- Gift Impact Menus with Ways to Give
- Impact Report
- Thank you note template
- Response forms can be digital via QR code or physical to turn into host or mail back to TMS Global.

Need additional materials?

 Two weeks prior to your event, you may request TMS materials for your guests by contacting Kenda at khembrough@tms-global.org or 678-542-9045. Please share your event date, the number of guests you are hoping will attend, and a list of materials needed.

Optional materials to create for your event

- Place Cards
- Mini Program & Menu Card

Technology testing

On our landing page, you'll find instructions for how you can share videos with your guests during this dinner. Please be sure to test out all the technology in advance.

www.tms-global.org/dinnertoolkit

Suggested agenda (1 hour 35 minutes)

Time	Segment	Description
0:00- 0:20	Arrival & Mingling	Welcome drinks, appetizers, soft background music, informal greetings
0:20- 0:25	Host Welcome	Host greets guests, opens in prayer, and shares a short personal connection to the mission
0:25- 0:45	Guest Introductions	Share your name and one sentence describing someone who impacted your discipleship journey (1-2 minutes per guest)
0:45- 0:48	Testimony Video (Pre-Dinner)	A short, inspiring testimony of transformation
0:48- 1:20	Dinner & Guided Conversation	Meal is served; guests engage in reflection with 1–2 curated discussion prompts at each place setting or table
1:20– 1:25	TCK Care Video	Video shows how TMS cares for families on the mission field
1:25- 1:30	Crisis Care Conversation	Host shares a crisis care story and leads a discussion around it.
1:30- 1:34	Training Video	Video showcases role of TMS in providing training and community for CCWs and International Partners
1:34– 1:36	CEO Video Ask	Video closes with a strong, inspiring call to action by the CEO focused on financial partnership
1:36– 1:41	Response Time	Host invites giving (cards and QR codes); soft instrumental music plays as guests respond
1:41– 1:43	Closing & Prayer	Host thanks guests, encourages continued connection, and offers closing prayer or reflection

Welcome by Host (5 min)

- Host thanks everyone for coming and opens with prayer.
- Asks guests to introduce themselves in 60 seconds or less your name, and name one
 person who has been instrumental in your discipleship journey
- Host names one person who has been instrumental in their discipleship journey, shares
 in one sentence how that person impacted them, and then prompts the next guest to
 introduce themselves in the same way.

Guest Introductions (15 min per 10 people)

- Share your name
- Name someone who has been instrumental in your discipleship journey and share how they impacted you in one or two sentences.
- Host: If time becomes an issue, ask guests to do their best to keep their responses to 30 seconds or less.

Our Why (3 min)

- Host: Thank you. Tonight, we're going to get a taste of all the amazing things God is
 doing around the world and how we can join Him in cross-cultural ministry for local and
 global impact. To kick things off, let's turn our attention to the screen to hear a story
 about why we're really here tonight.
- Story Video

Dinner & Guided Conversation (30 min)

- Host: Praise God. It's always so encouraging to see stories of lives transformed by Jesus.
- And I have more great news. It's time to eat! Please join me in the dining room. You'll
 find a placecard with your name on it.
- During dinner, I invite you to participate in a meaningful tradition known as a
 Jeffersonian Dinner—where we share one table, one meal, and one conversation
 around a shared theme.
- Tonight's theme is: "What does it mean to join Jesus in His mission today?"
- At your place, you'll find a card with a few reflection questions. There's no pressure
 to answer all of them—these are simply starting points to guide thoughtful, heartfelt
 conversation.

- Feel free to speak from your experience, ask honest questions, and most of all, listen with curiosity.
- Let's enjoy this meal together—and let the Spirit guide our conversation.
- Discussion Prompts on Tables:
 - When you think about people around the world who've never heard the gospel, what emotions or questions come to mind?
 - If God reveals Himself through dreams, creation, and conscience, why do you think He still chooses to send people across cultures to share the gospel?
 - Have you ever tried to communicate something important in a different cultural context where your words, values, or assumptions didn't quite land the way you intended? What did that feel like?
 - Nearly half of global mission workers leave the field within five years—mostly for preventable reasons. What kind of support do you think they need to thrive?

Host Transition

- Well, I hope all of you enjoyed conversation over dinner as much as I did. It's such a gift to gather with other believers and talk about the goodness of God.
- Now I'd like to share with you a video that paints a picture of how TMS Global cares for families on the mission field.

TCK Care Video (5 min)

Video about how TMS Global cares for families and children on the mission field.

Host Leads Member Care Discussion (5 min)

- I love that video because it shows just how seriously TMS takes the wellbeing of our global workers and their families.
- But it doesn't stop with kids—TMS Global offers comprehensive Member Care to every cross-cultural witness we send and support. That includes regular check-ins, pastoral care, prayer support, counseling, debriefing, crisis response, and more.
- Let's take a moment to discuss:
 What do you think it would be like to experience a medical or emotional crisis on the mission field—away from family, language, and familiar systems of care?
- [Allow brief responses from 1–2 guests]
- Let me share a quick story that really stayed with me—it shows what this kind of care looks like when things get really hard.

- Kerry and Joey Davidson were serving in Liberia when Joey fell suddenly and severely ill. They were far from advanced medical care, and at one point, Joey became unresponsive. Roads were closed due to a VIP visit, and Kerry had to plead and negotiate with police just to get through to the hospital.
- The TMS Global Crisis Care team jumped into action quickly. They fought with the insurance on behalf of the Davidsons, helped coordinate a medical evacuation to Germany and in-country support through the TMS network. And then after the crisis was over, TMS provided free debriefing and trauma care to help the Davidsons heal.
- Kerry later said: 'I had so many people from TMS help me when I was the most scared I've ever been. It strengthened my faith to see the body of Christ in action.'
- When we support TMS Global, this kind of care is what we make possible for global mission workers—life-changing support, in real moments of crisis.
- As we near the close of our evening, I want to share one final video. It captures how TMS Global trains and supports cross-cultural workers.
- [Host ensures that response cards and giving menus are available to guests.]

Video (6 min)

Video highlights how God uses TMS Global to further the gospel, and is followed by an
invitation from CEO, Jim Ramsay. At the end, background music continues playing for 10
minutes and fades out. This allows the host to have background music during the
response.

Host Invites Response While Music Plays (4 min)

• While the background music from the video plays, the host shares: "As you prayerfully consider your response, I just have one more thing to share before we close."

Options for Creating Urgency Without Pressure

While we never want guests to feel pressured, it's important to give them a reason to respond tonight. Here are a few options you can choose from—or combine—based on your group and your personal story:

1. **Join Me Language** – Share that you've already given and invite them to join you by giving or pledging tonight. For example, "I've set a goal to raise \$5,000 in the next three

- months. I can assure you that your gift or pledge tonight will be life-changing for people around the globe who don't yet know Jesus as their Lord and Savior."
- 2. **Time-Sensitive Opportunity** Reference a real opportunity that needs funding soon (training cohort, program milestone, etc.).
- 3. Momentum Framing Let guests know this is part of a movement and early donors are key to building momentum. "This dinner is part of a pilot initiative—an early step in what we hope will become a movement. We're exploring whether gatherings like this can awaken the Church to God's global mission in a deeper, more personal way. You're not just attending—you're helping shape the future of how we invite others into this sacred work. Like the early Church gathering in homes, we're starting small and praying big. If you feel stirred tonight, I want to invite you to respond tonight—by making a gift or pledge before you leave. Your generosity helps build momentum. Let's send the signal with our response tonight that others should host gatherings like this on behalf of TMS Global. Together, we can help start a movement."
- 4. "Don't Miss the Moment" Prompt Acknowledge that people get busy and forget—
 even with good intentions. "Please take a moment to prayerfully consider a gift or
 pledge tonight. It's easy to think, 'Well I'll take the materials home with me and give
 later.' But of course, we all get busy and even those of us with the best intentions tend to
 forget. So if you're not ready to give tonight, that's okay. Go ahead and make a pledge
 for whatever amount you know you can commit. Let's not miss this opportunity to sow
 into an eternal reward."
- 5. **Issue a Matching Gift Challenge** "Before we close, I want to share something I've personally committed to. I believe deeply in the mission of TMS Global, and to help inspire generosity tonight, I've set aside a personal matching gift of \$[Amount]. That means every dollar you give—up to that amount—will be doubled. Your \$250 becomes \$500. Your \$1,000 becomes \$2,000. If you've been praying about giving, I hope this match encourages you to say yes. It's one more way we can multiply the impact of this evening—together."

Host Provides Response Materials to Make Giving Easy

- "You may have noticed the QR codes and Gift Impact Menus around the room. (Perhaps
 you pass out materials or direct guests to find materials in their gift bags.) I hope this
 makes it easy for you to respond tonight.
- But please know, if tonight isn't the right moment for you to give, that's completely okay. Your time and presence are already a gift.
- I'll give you one more minute of silence to fill out your response cards, and then I'll close us in prayer.

- (Wait a minute or two.)
- Thank you all again so much for coming! If you have questions or want to continue the conversation, I'm here.
- Let's close with a word of prayer." (Host prays or invites one guest to pray.)