



# “Pastor, I lost my job” Now What?

PCA General Assembly  
June 2020

Dale Kreienkamp

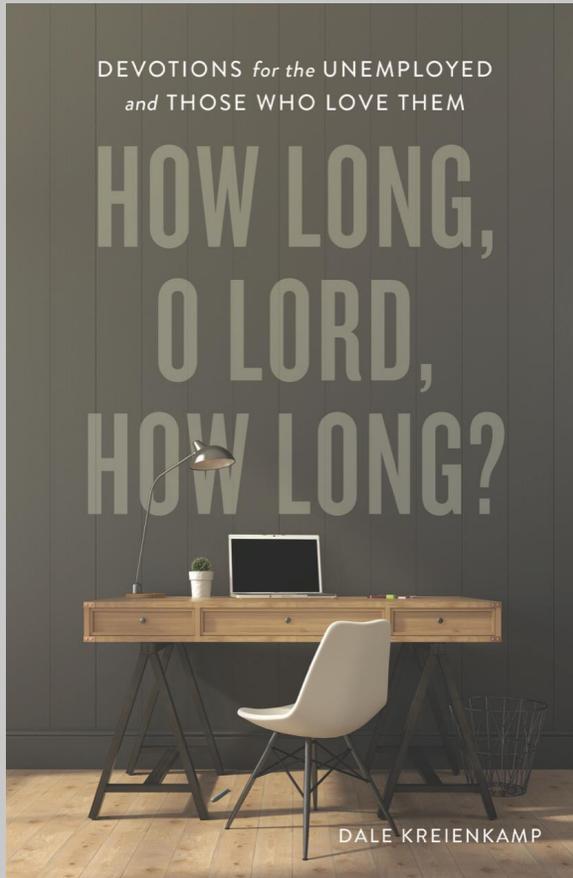
Author of *How Long, O Lord, How Long?*

*Devotions for the Unemployed and Those Who Love Them*

# Dale Kreienkamp



- **Speaker**
- **Author**
- Human resources ***consultant***
- Over 40 years of human resources expertise built up through corporate and consulting experiences



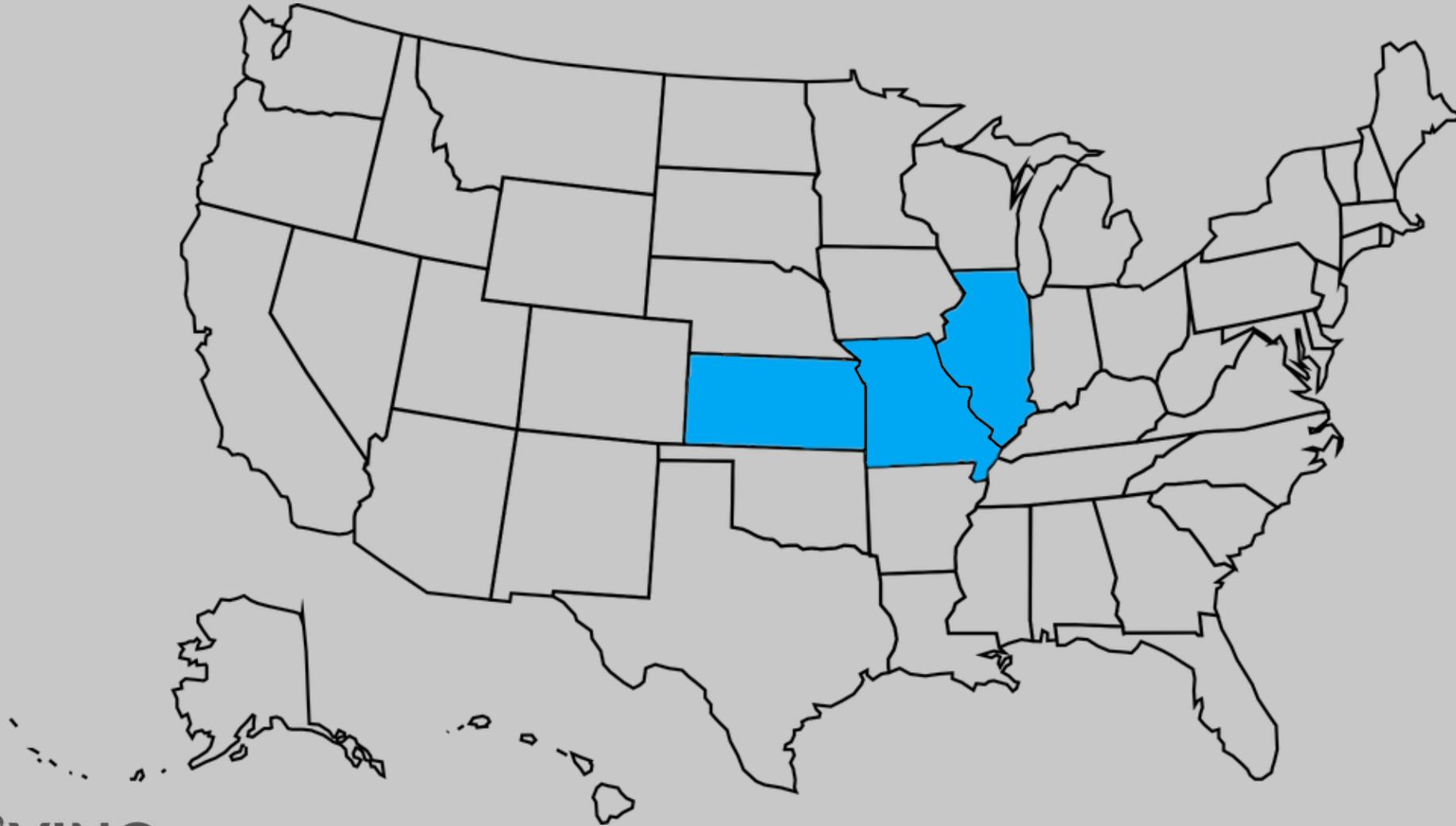
- 80 devotions, each with scripture
- Validates the emotions of the unemployed
- Provides others an understanding of what the unemployed are experiencing

# What is unemployment annually?

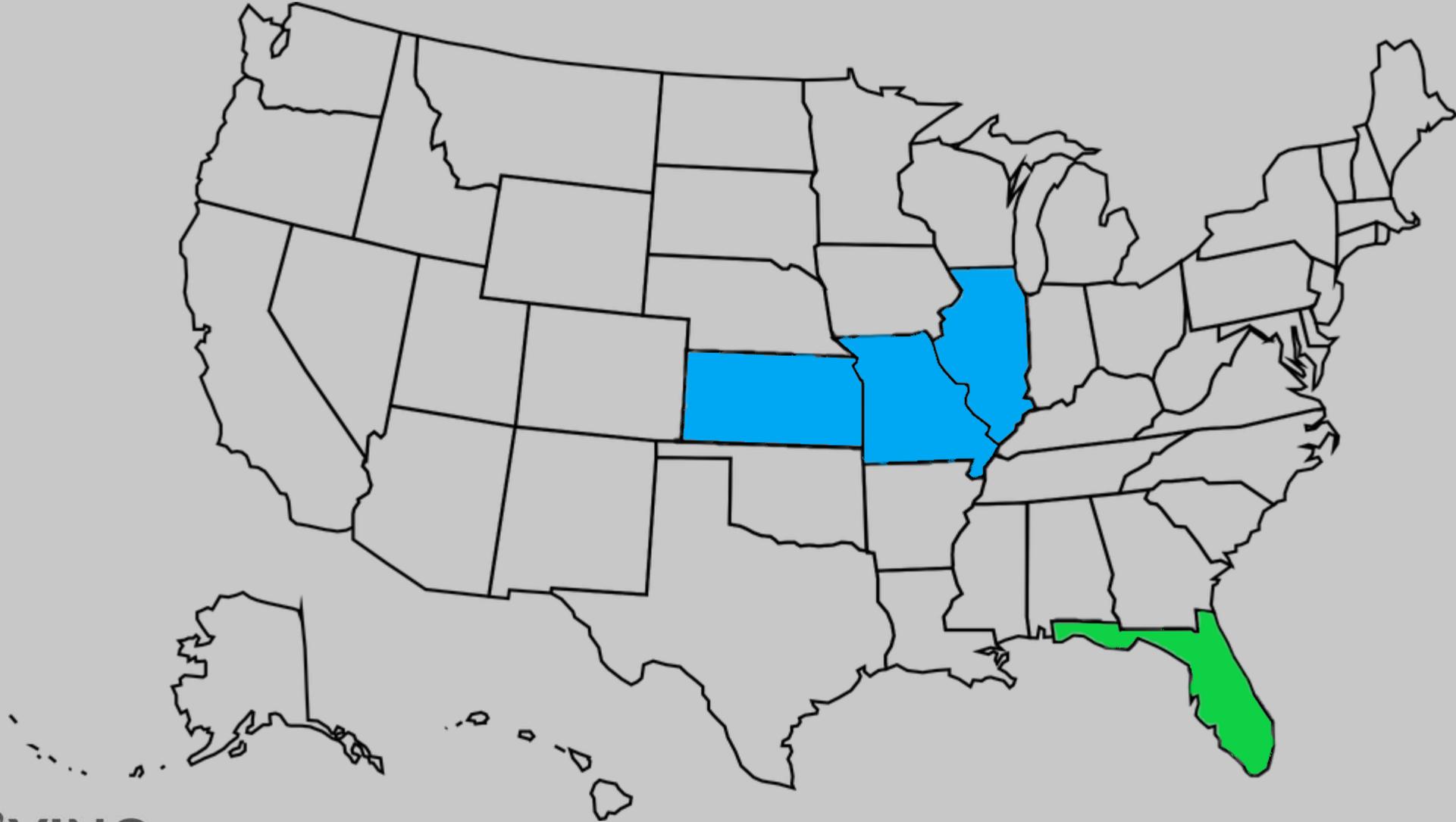


**21.7 million**  
(BLS 10-year average)

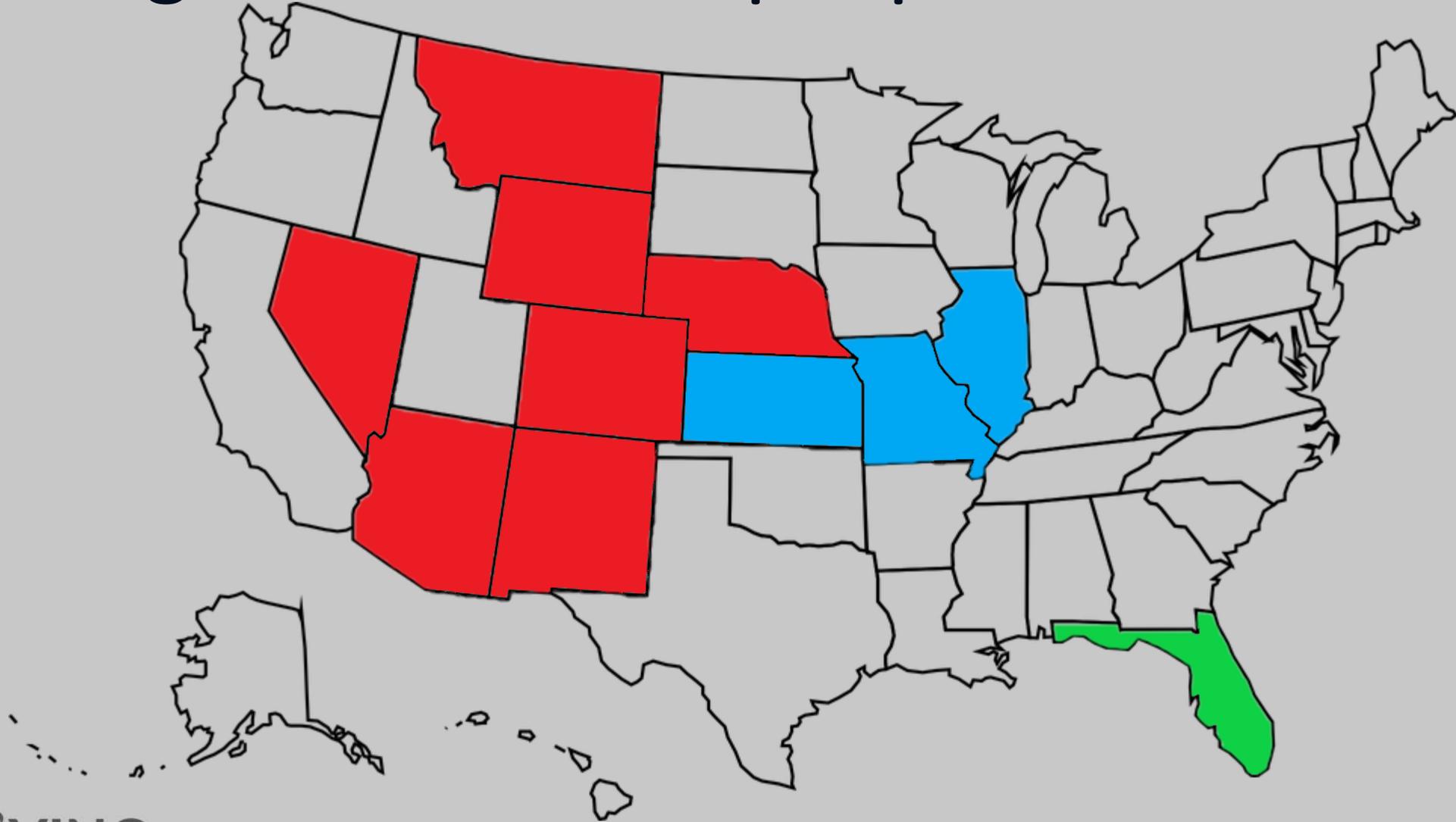
# How big is 21.7 million people?



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# Comparative Statistics

**2.8 million** annual Deaths in US

**1.7 million** annual new diagnosis of cancer

**800,000** annual divorces

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
National Center for Health Statistics  
National Cancer Institute

# Today = 40 million people



# Furlough

## Is Unemployment!

# How will the church respond?

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**THRIVING**  
THROUGH TRANSITIONS



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“We don’t know when members in our congregation become unemployed, they never tell us.”

Embarrassment

Shame

Identity





# Anger

Fear  
—  
Worry  
—  
Anxiety

- **F**alse
- **E**vidence
- **A**ppearing
- **R**eal



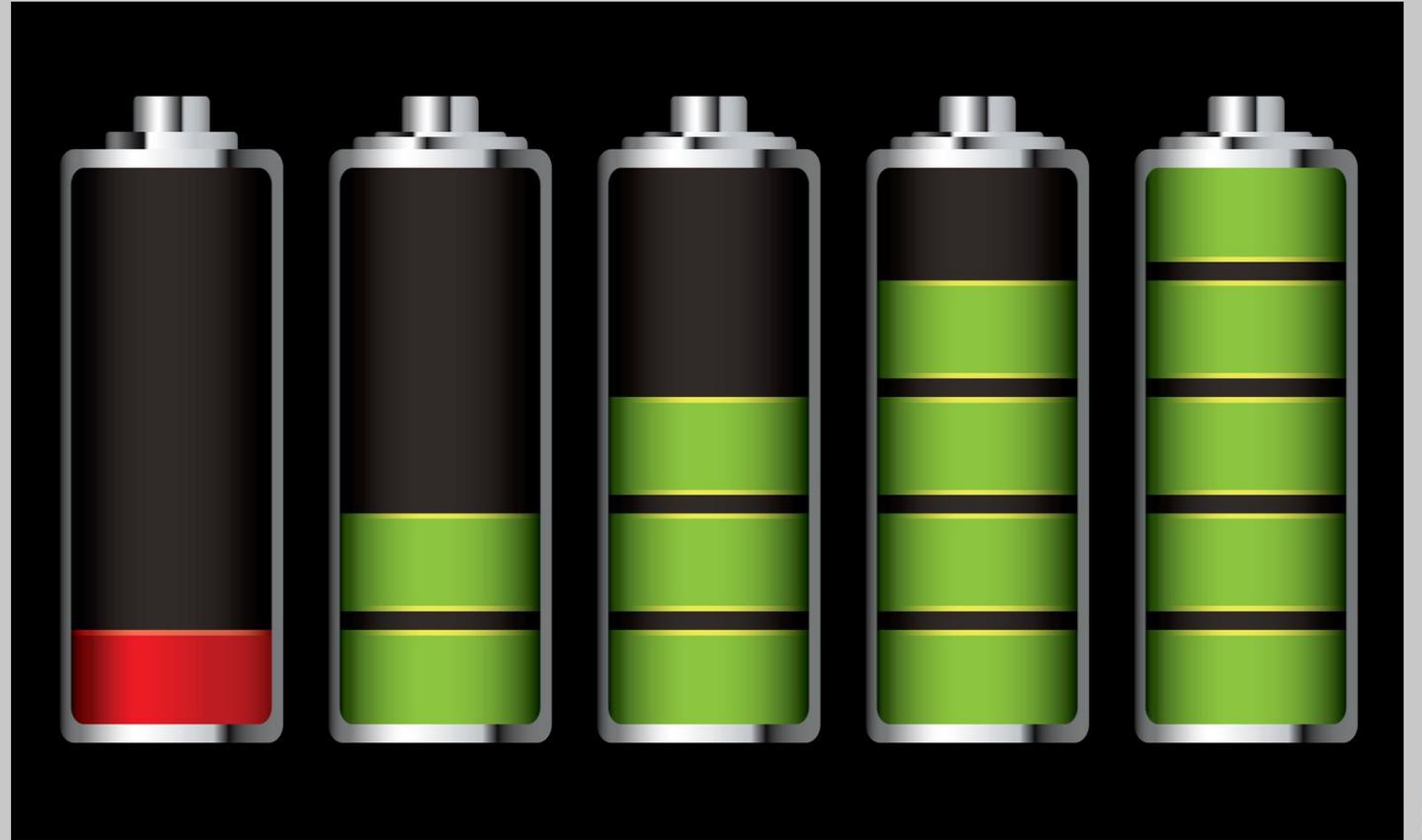
# Loneliness

-

# Isolation

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# Self - Confidence



# Time

Too much time  
Gift

Conflicted

Opportunity!



Keep busy  
Structure  
Don't waste it

# Despair



How can  
the  
Church  
help



Make  
unemployment  
an open topic

- Acknowledge it is an issue
- Preach about it
  - Their emotions
  - Let's let them know you understand
- Include them in prayers

# Ask – or you may never know

- You need to be proactive
- The unemployed will rarely reach out to let you know
  - They suffer in silence
  - They will drift away
- Let them know you want to know
- Ask others to let you know of those unemployed

# Have a system of support

- Utilize existing ministry care options
  - Example: Stephens Minsters
- Create your own

- It does not have to be the Pastor
- It does not have to be staff
- Consider utilizing someone who has been previously unemployed
  - They will love an opportunity to give back and help

Find a  
Champion

A vertical image on the left side of the slide. The top half shows a bright sunset or sunrise with a glowing sun and colorful sky. The bottom half shows a dark silhouette of a hand pouring coffee from a small pitcher into a dark mug. The background is dark, making the white text stand out.

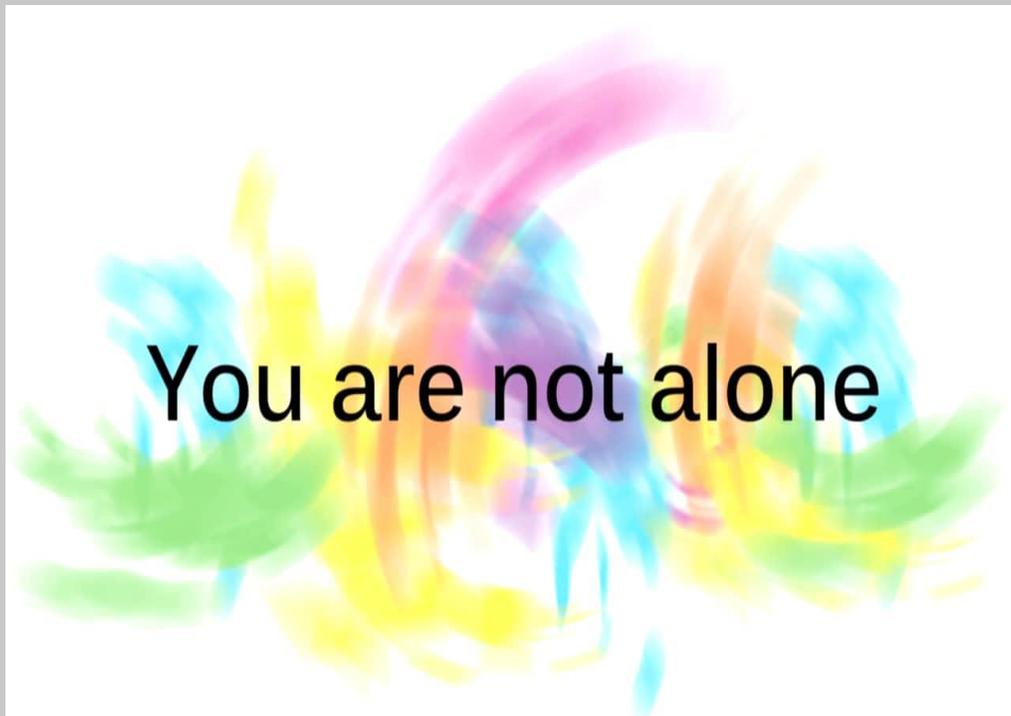
Some talk to you  
in their free time  
and some free their  
time to talk to you.  
Learn the difference.

## Engineer Care

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- When you know who is unemployed – there must be a system to reach out
- Regular connecting - more than once
- Spiritual care – it's a spiritual struggle & journey
- Reach out to their spouse too

# Support group



- Grief
- Divorce
- Cancer
- Unemployment – Why not?

# Leverage your congregational network



Help by introducing them

- They need to grow their network
- Who do you know to connect them with?
  - A. Members
  - B. Community leaders

# Leverage your network - Introduce Them

- Don't just say "use my name"
- Reach out on their behalf – a personal request
- Request their time to meet with the unemployed person
- When they say "yes" - make an introduction
  - You've opened a door for them



## Finances

- Reach out to offer help, don't wait to be asked
  - Day school tuition
  - Financial commitment to a capital campaign
  - Fees associated with activities, e.g. youth events, etc.
  - Other?

# Outreach opportunities

- Create a *job transition ministry* that supports not only your congregation members, but those in the community at large
- Do a *Bible study* for those unemployed and their spouse/significant other
- Consider a *workshop* for the community at large on the job search – open it up to the community where you are located

# Do you have questions?



**Website:**

[DaleKreienkamp.com](http://DaleKreienkamp.com)

**E-mail:**

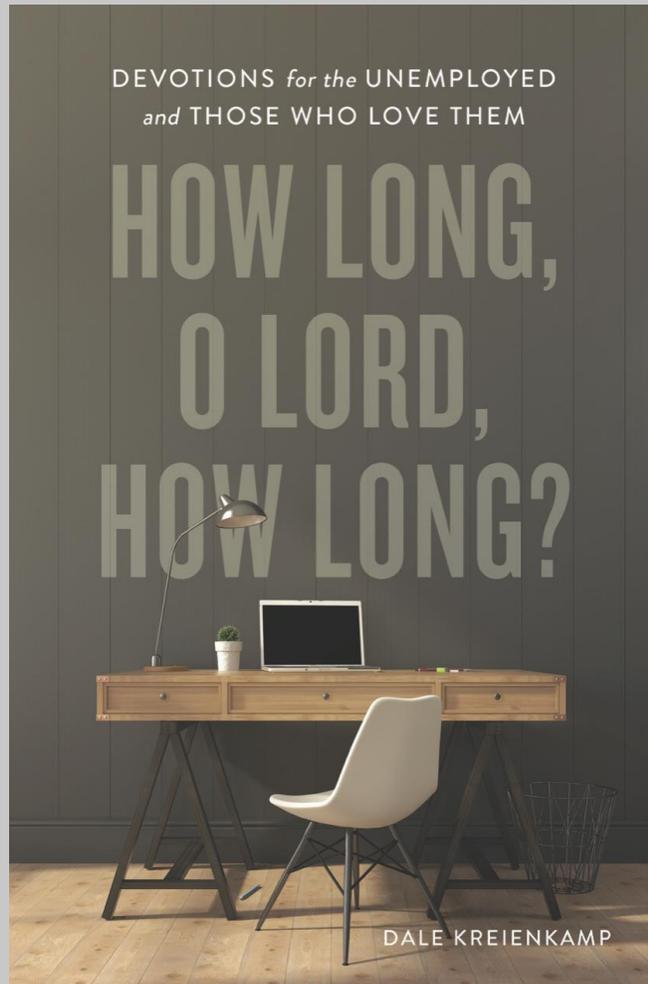
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Learn more - be connected

**Text your Name + e-  
mail address**

**314-221-3212**



Available through website:

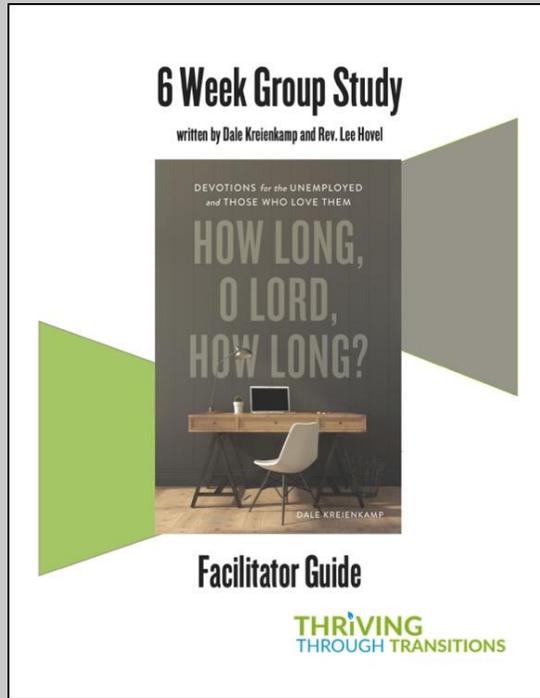
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\$12.00 ea. – Reduced price  
due to COVID-19

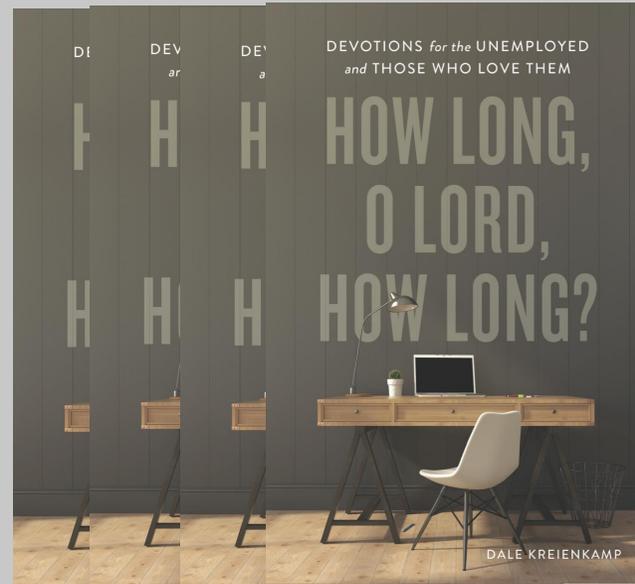
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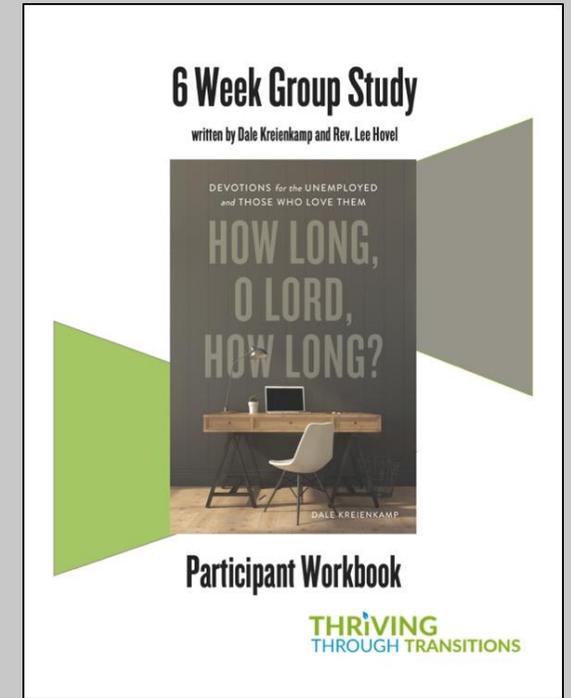
# Support Group or Study: It's already created



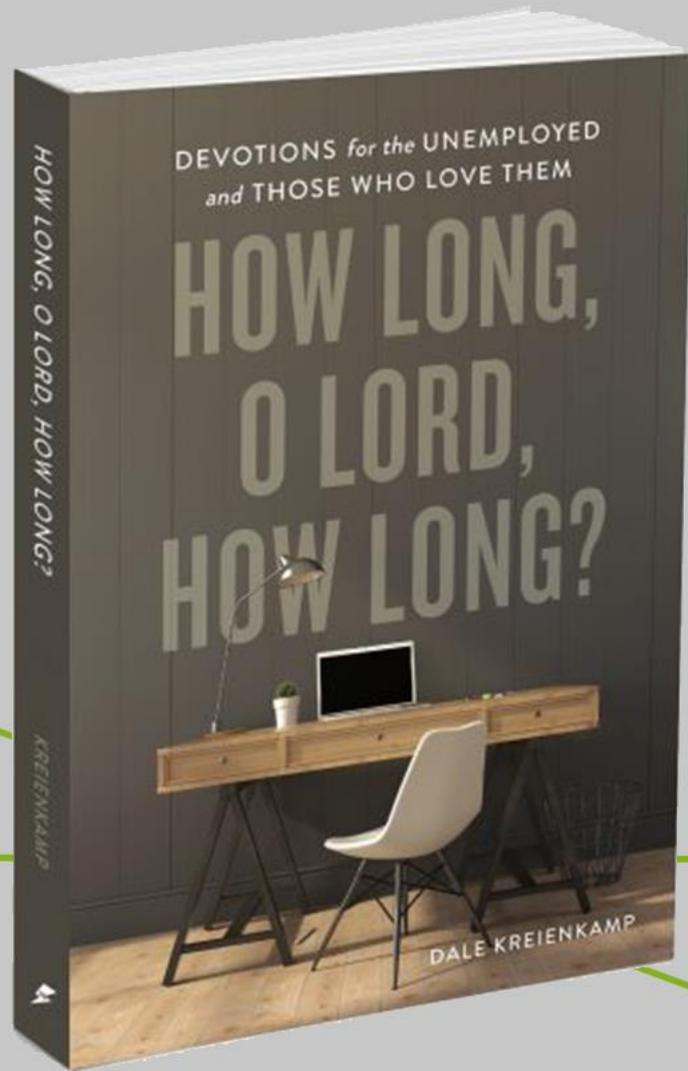
Facilitator Guide – with guidance for hosting virtually



12 copies of *How Long, O Lord, How Long?*



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# HOW LONG, OR LORD, HOW LONG?

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