



Invitation to Discipleship | Matthew 4:18-22
January 6, 2018

Tips and Tricks:

The sermon notes are designed to be used as a guide for discussion. Don't feel like you have to use every question. Some questions will take a while to work through and others will be over in a few seconds.

1. Don't teach the lesson. The sermon was just preached. Just ask the questions and let everyone else talk.
2. Let other people ask questions. It's OK to go "off topic" for a while. Sometimes those conversations are more interesting anyway!
3. Have fun. Don't forget to laugh and crack up. Relationships, not curriculum, are the heartbeat of our ministry. Remember: We have to build a relational bridge strong enough to hold the truth!

Agenda for Group Time

1. Ice Breaker - Lighthearted ice breaker question (10 minutes)
2. Discussion - Bible study, sharing and application. (25 Minutes)
3. Prayer - Pray together (5 minutes)
4. Planning - Remember to talk about what's coming up.

Warm up!

What's the biggest change you've made in the last few years?

How I've grown:

- I've conquered my fear of overindulgence.
- I lay on the horn or scream—never both.
- My inner child can beat up your inner child.
- I don't care what others think...Is that okay?
- I've reclaimed my victimhood.
- I've mastered social networking.
- Other: _____

Talk it over!

Discipleship is the Mission of the Church

And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

(Matthew 28:18-20 ESV)

Question: What sorts of things do we like to think church is about?

- Music
- Preaching
- Me
- Coffee
- Getting my needs met
- Other: _____

Question: According to the above passage, why is "making disciples" THE mission of the church?

Key Question: What is a disciple?

The Invitation is the Definition

And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."
(Matthew 4:19 ESV)

1. A disciple follows Jesus.

"Follow me..."
(Matthew 4:19 ESV)

One way I can open my life more to God:

- Accept that I'm not the center of the universe.
- Let God handle my fear.
- Trust that God has my best interest at heart.
- Let go of my resentment and bitterness.
- Include God in my decision-making
- Other: _____

2. A disciple is changed by Jesus.

"...and I will make you..."
(Matthew 4:19 ESV)

Question: How has Jesus changed the way you are living your life? Is there anything in your life that needs Jesus' help?

3. A disciple commits to the mission.

"...fishers of men."
(Matthew 4:19 ESV)

Question: How do you feel about sharing the gospel with your friends?

- Horrified
- Apathetic
- Super confident
- Excited
- Other: _____

Question: What are some things that our church does that would be great to invite your friends that don't know Jesus to?

4. A disciple leaves.

Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.
(Matthew 4:22 ESV)

Question: What "nets" do you need to leave behind to follow after Christ?

- Addiction
- Anger
- A relationship
- Vocation
- Pride
- Fear
- Other: _____

Question: What did Jesus leave to fulfill His mission? How does this help us become disciples?

Work It Out!

The next step in my spiritual growth:

- Invite Jesus Christ to come into my life.
- Connect with others who are growing.
- Find a place to volunteer my strengths.
- Share what God is doing in my life.
- Make the Bible a part of my daily life.
- Other: _____

One thing I'll do differently because of this sermon:
