



“Follow me. Jesus’ call was so simple, but His intention for His disciples was never to merely rest in observation of Him, but to learn from Him, to experience Him, to be transformed by Him, and, in some strange way, go out together and do the things He was doing in the world, bringing the Kingdom of Heaven to bear on the world.”

INTRODUCTION ACTIVITY:

What is a part of your body that you think you could do without or wish were different than it is? Why?

MEMORY VERSE:

Matthew 9:9b

“Follow me.”

SCRIPTURE READING:

Matthew 4:18-22

“18 While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. 19 And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” 20 Immediately they left their nets and followed him. 21 And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. 22 Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.”

Matthew 9:9

“9 As Jesus passed on from there, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, “Follow me.” And he rose and followed him.”

Matthew 10:1-4

“And he called to him his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every affliction. 2 The names of the twelve apostles are these: first, Simon, who is called Peter, and

Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; 3 Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; 4 Simon the Zealot, and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.”

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. The church is intended to be a body of believers, a tribe of disciples doing the work of Jesus in the world. What is a disciple? How would you define it? What are attributes of a disciple of Jesus Christ?
2. When Jesus called the disciples to come and follow Him, what did that mean? What did it mean in First Century Rabbinic culture?
3. Jesus' purpose for His disciples was not merely that they would follow Him, although that's how it started. He intended for them to begin to do that which He did eventually (Matt. 10:1). What did that mean?
4. The typical pathway to becoming a Rabbi was to follow a Rabbi, meaning to actually just be around them all the time, observing how they did they things they did. Then the disciple would be educated by the Rabbi with an expectation that the disciple would be transformed through that education through both knowledge and practice. Finally, the expectation was that a disciple would one day become a Rabbi.
 1. 4aConsidering this rabbinic pathway, how does this fit into modern-day discipleship? How do we follow Jesus?
 2. How do we become educated in the Word (through knowledge and practice)?
 3. How do we go out and seek to become Rabbis who make disciples?
5. Where are you on this Rabbinic pathway? Who disciples you? Who are you discipling?
6. Doing the work of Christ humbly, together is difficult. Conflict can arise because though we are called to do the work of Christ, we are not Christ. We may do it wrong, we may make mistakes, we may need to repent and change our methods and practices along the way. How do we take confident steps forward while remaining humble and willing to repent/change/turn if we find ourselves off track?

CLOSING PRAYER ACTIVITY:

Invite someone to close the group in prayer.