



Following JESUS

LEADER'S NOTES

Week 7: Destinations

QUESTION 1

For the second week in a row, we are discussing destinations that Jesus leads us to. Both the sermon and the discussion questions outline four destinations. The first question focuses on **John chapter 1** and the interesting progression Jesus uses to call Philip. First, Jesus says, "come and see," then He says, "follow me." This reminds us that some people begin following Jesus in a dramatic moment, while others go through a process; they are first led to come and see, and then eventually to follow Jesus. The first question invites your group to discuss how they came to Christ and reflects on the scripture in **John chapter 1**.

QUESTION 2

Jesus is leading us to greater spiritual understanding. We see this in **John 8:12**. What follows might help you lead this question.

Key aspects of this verse for Christians include:

- **Divine Identity:** By claiming to be the "light of the world," Jesus is identifying Himself as God, revealing His divine glory, holiness, and wisdom.
- **Guidance and Truth:** Just as a lighthouse directs ships, Jesus guides believers away from the darkness of sin, confusion, and ignorance.
- **The Promise of "Life":** The "light of life" refers to eternal life and spiritual illumination that comes from a personal relationship with Him.
- **Active Discipleship:** Following Jesus is described as an ongoing, daily commitment to walking in His ways, not just a one-time decision.
- **Reflecting the Light:** Believers are called to reflect this light through their actions and good deeds, as seen in **Matthew 5:14–16**.

QUESTION 3

Jesus leads us to emotional healing and wholeness by healing our broken hearts. Here are key ways Jesus binds up broken hearts, with corresponding verses:

1. By Providing Close, Personal Comfort

- Jesus does not remain distant from pain; He draws near to those who are hurting.
 - **Psalm 34:18 (NIV): "The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit."**
 - **Psalm 147:3 (NIV): "He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds."**

2. By Proclaiming Freedom and Healing

- Jesus came to specifically minister to the brokenhearted, reversing the effects of spiritual and emotional imprisonment.
 - **Isaiah 61:1 (NKJV): "The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me... He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives."**
 - **Luke 4:18 (NKJV): "He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed."**

3. By Offering Forgiveness and Grace

- At the cross, Jesus removes the burdens of sin and guilt that cause deep heartache.
 - **Romans 5:8 (NIV): "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."**
 - **Psalm 51:17 (NIV): "My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise."**

4. Through Emotional Restoration

- Jesus acts as a healer who tenderly restores joy and removes sorrow.
 - **John 14:27 (NIV): "Peace I leave with you..."**

QUESTION 4

The last destination that we discussed is that Jesus leads us to eternal life. In this question, I focused on how Jesus consistently links having eternal life with knowing Him. I think you'll enjoy discussing this last question. It might be helpful to discuss the difference between knowing about and knowing personally. It is our personal knowledge of Jesus that He links with eternal life. You might also discuss how knowing you have eternal life should affect your daily life. This also might be a time to talk about salvation if someone attending a group has not accepted Christ.