Fall 2017 Community Groups

Discussion Guide

Following Jesus 3 - Go
Matthew 28:19



For the rest of the semester, we will be looking on how the scriptures that were preached on and that we are reading affects what we do in the world around us. This **Following Jesus** series works directly with the idea of our work in the world to share the good news.

Get To Know You

Share your favorite thing that happened on a trip you've gone on. This doesn't necessarily have to be your favorite trip of all time, just the best thing that has ever happened while you've been on a trip.

Discussion & Application

Read Matthew 4:18-22, Matthew 28:16-20

The field of dreams idea of "if you build it, they will come," has almost no relation to what we're called to do as Christians. However, that is often the mindset we get into. We have a nice building, we have great music, fantastic teaching, and these are all good things that are important for us as we seek to be the church in the world. But, if we treat "going" as simply waking up on Sundays and going to the worship service, or getting ourselves together and going to community group during the week, we are missing a big part of what it means to "go and make disciples."

Our view should change to "if you go, you will reach them." Followers of Jesus are the church going into the world in the dailiness of our lives. We are called to go into our jobs, into our neighborhoods, into our families and friendships with the good news bearing fruit always. And we are called to go whether we feel ready or not. We often get stuck feeling like we haven't grown enough to be able to share the good news. We'll talk more about growing as a disciple in a couple weeks. Consider the disciples, Jesus called them and they followed and went along with him. They were certainly sent to before they were ready and came back with questions for Jesus. They went and beared fruit and shared the good news of the kingdom of God in the world together.

This is our call also, to go together and make disciples in the world.

- 1. When you think about going out and sharing the gospel, what first comes to mind?
- 2. What are some ways people have come to you with the gospel?
- 3. What prevents you from from going to these people?

- 4. Who are the people in your life you feel called to go to?
- 5. What should we do to help one another go and makes disciples?
- 6. Can we call ourselves disciples if we are not going and making disciples?
- 7. Share a time you went out with the gospel before you felt like you were ready to do it.
- 8. What does it look like to share the gospel in the dailiness of your life?

Prayer Time

Set aside 10-15 minutes at the end of tonight's meeting to pray for one another. Pray specifically that God would show you who He is calling you to go to.

Challenge

Share with your group or a close friend who you think God is calling you to go to. Keep each other accountable for how you are doing reaching out.

The Gospel Story

This is the good news - that at the right time, God, in all His love and mercy, sent His only Son, Jesus the Christ to be born humbly as a baby. He did this to come down to where we are so that we would be able to know who He is. Jesus lived and breathed and healed and taught and served. He was in all ways God and in all ways man. And then He was beaten and nailed to a cross to suffer and die in order to pay the price for our sins. That is, because of our sin and brokenness, we were dead with no way of redeeming ourselves. But Jesus in all his love and mercy paid the price for us, so that death would be defeated, so that the shackles of sin would be taken off, so that our blindness would be healed. And then, after three days, He rose from the grave, establishing His kingdom and bringing real actual life to the world. You see, through Christ's death and resurrection we have been saved from death and given a new life, full of peace and glory and love. He is our king and our savior, our Lord and our brother, He is God and we are His people. We have been show the great richness of God's love for us in all of these ways. And this is good news.

There is more to say about this good news, but were all the terabytes on all the computers in all of the world used to write about Jesus Christ, there still would not be enough room.