

## Northland Christian Church Group Discussion Guide For the Week of November 14, 2021

Use the questions below as a springboard for discussion. You do not have to answer every question. These are intended to help spark discussion. Refer to as needed. Ultimately we want God's answers, not man's opinions. Always land where God lands. (ex: Where do we see that in the Bible?) Give grace. Give time for growth. Don't force it.

#### Connect

- Who has been the best coach or teacher in your life? Why were they so effective?
- Have you ever been skeptical about a new experience, food, or entertainment choice, only to become its biggest fan after you experienced it? Describe the situation. What happened that changed your mind?

## **The Context**

### John Chapter 1:35-42

Today, we are going to dive into a part of the Gospel of John, where a group of people give up everything to take on a brand new calling to follow Jesus. They would give up everything they knew - their jobs, their relationships with others, and one day their lives to follow Jesus.

If you sign up to follow Jesus it's more than just believe, baptism, and butts in a seat. Following Jesus is a ride you go on for the rest of your life. It's not easy, it requires everything from you, but you get everything in return. The Gospel of John will start to introduce the rest of the team Jesus picks up as they take on a job of a lifetime. It's dangerous! It pays nothing! It costs you everything. Yet it also gives us more and make more of a difference than we can ever imagine. Welcome to the Kingdom team.

# **Engage the Bible - Read and Review Surprises, Takeaways, and Observations from:**

### John 1:35-42 NIV

"The next day John was there again with two of his disciples. 36 When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, "Look, the Lamb of God!" 37 When the two disciples heard him say this, they followed Jesus. 38 Turning around, Jesus saw them following and asked, "What do you want?" They said, "Rabbi" (which means "Teacher"), "where are you staying?" 39 "Come," he replied, "and you will see." So they went and saw where he was staying, and they spent that day with him. It was about four in the afternoon. 40 Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. 41 The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, "We have found the Messiah" (that is, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You will be called Cephas" (which, when translated, is Peter)."

### **Discuss**

- 1. What was the result of John the Baptist's testimony about Jesus being the Lamb of God?
- 2. In addition to following Jesus, what does Andrew do? What difference did this make?
- 3. Who has been essential in pointing you to Jesus? For salvation, but also for life in Jesus since then.
- 4. How have you seen God seek you out? In what instances or circumstances in your life have you seen him intentionally pursue you?
- 5. Have you seen others come to Christ?

- 6. What would you tell others about what God can do through the witness of one person?
- 7. Pastor Dave said Sunday, that It's all about Jesus and not about me. What can we do to make sure this is the core of our testimony and witness about Jesus? How can that help us share?
- 8. When Jesus sees Simon, He tells him he will be called Cephas or Peter. In what specific ways has Jesus changed your own identity?
- 9. Dave shared Sunday that: The invitation to follow Jesus, is an invitation to live like Jesus.

## "Whoever claims to live in him must live as Jesus did." - 1 John 2:6

- How has living for and like Jesus made a difference in your life? Or how has your life changed as you have been following Jesus? As you have been in this group?
- 10. Do you think people typically view following Jesus as a one-time event, or as an ongoing lifestyle? Why? What is the difference between the two?
- 11. Who is discipling you regularly? Who are you discipling regularly? If this is not occurring, what do you think is holding you back or hindering this from happening? How can we help?
- 12. How are you discipling your family regularly? How are you leveraging specific moments for discipleship and sharing Jesus stories? (Consider things like meals, car time, bedtime, walking, homework, etc.)
- 13. There is this famous theologian who lived during world war two in Nazi Germany. He lived in the worst of conditions and yet those conditions caused him and others to understand the true essence of following Jesus means complete sacrifice. "When Christ calls a man, he bids him come and die." Dietrich Bonhoeffer, The Cost of Discipleship. Is this how you have seen your faith journey with Jesus? Read <a href="Matthew 16:24-26">Matthew 16:24-26</a> for more.

## Challenge:

Create an impact list that includes the names of at least two people that you will intentionally be a witness to this week. In your interaction with these two individuals, make a commitment to have the right attitude (it's not about me, it's about Jesus), the right message (Jesus is the lamb that takes away the sin of the world), and trust God for the right response (people following Jesus).

**End Your Group Time in Prayer**