

Sermon Discussion Guide for Cumberland Fellowship Church
Sermon: The Call from Heaven and the Cry From Hell – July 17, 2022



*This guide is a supplement to the weekly sermon. We encourage families and groups to use it. When we hear God's Word, we need to do more than listen. The Bible says, "Be doers of the word, not hearers only (James 1:22)." **Step 1: GATHER** with your family or group. **Step 2: REVIEW** and **DISCUSS** the key points and scriptures from the sermon. **Step 3: PRAY** for the prayer requests shared by your family or group.*

DISCUSSION STARTER

Say, "Jesus commanded us to love our neighbor and commissioned us to make disciples." Ask people in your group to share a time they shared the Gospel with someone. Have them share the details of how they shared the "Good News" with that person and how they responded to it.

DIGGING DEEPER 1

Read Mark 1:12-15. Say, "Jesus is our Master and our example to follow. After 40 days in the wilderness, what was Jesus' first ministry (see verse 14)?" In verse fifteen we see Jesus' first command to all people, "*The Kingdom of God is near! Repent of your sins and believe the Good News!*" Ask, "How has Jesus' first command to repent of your sins and believe the Good News impacted your life?" Discuss some practical ways how we can help others turn from their sins (repentance) and turn to Jesus for eternal life. Say, "We are not God, nor are we the Holy Spirit, yet we have a significant part in helping people come to Christ." Ask, "What is our role?"

DIGGING DEEPER 2

Read Luke 16:24-26. The rich man cried out for Father Abraham to have mercy on him. Ask, "Why did the rich man not receive mercy?" Discuss that mercy and hope is only for the living this side of eternity. Once you're dead, it is too late. Ask, "How important is it for believers to proclaim the gospel and show the unsaved how to follow Jesus now before it is too late?" Ask, "Do you think the church has done a good job training believers how to share the Gospel?" If we do not understand the gospel, we may hesitate to share it. Say, "Pastor Brian has been tasked by Pastor Sam to develop an Evangelism course. This course will be available in the Fall. We want to see all of the CF family trained to share Jesus and make disciples."

DIGGING DEEPER 3

Read Hebrews 9:27-28. The writer of Hebrews makes it clear that each person will die and after that face judgement. Say, "65 million people die each year in the world. That is 178,000 each day, 7425 each hour, **120 each minute**, and **2 each second**." Discuss how the culture has changed. Christian values, traditions, and terminologies that were once common knowledge have become a thing of the past. Ask, "How can we equip ourselves and our church to give a clear, concise, with compelling hope strategies, to reach this changing world with the good news of Christ."

DOING THE WORD

Read Luke 16:19-31. The rich man ended up in hell for all eternity. He had no mercy, he had no hope, only torment. In the fires of Hell, he was moved to compassion because of his predicament—he now knows the truth and he has gained a great passion for evangelism. He has a passion for someone to GO, for someone to CARE and for someone to SHARE. Those in Hell beg us followers of Christ who know the truth to SHARE JESUS with those headed to that place. Ask, "How does the cry from Hell motivate you to obey Jesus' call and share the Good News, the Gospel of Jesus Christ with your family, friends, co-workers and neighbors?" Encourage people in your small group to surrender their lives to Jesus' command to make disciples. Since making disciples starts with saving faith, have each person share one or two names of people who are lost and close by praying together for them.