



Bible study for the week starting July 9, 2023

SHARE

If you were going to compare your faith to a baseball game...where is your faith? Are you in the stands, rooting on others who are living out their faith? Are you in t-ball, just getting a grasp of how faith impacts your life? Are you constantly in the batting cages, improving your form? Are you in the dugout...waiting and eager to get put in the game, just not sure if you are ready? Are you on the field, making plays and playing the game with joy? Are you in a season where you are coaching others? Or are you playing a different game all together? In other words...How would you describe your faith using baseball language?

READ/STUDY/DISCUSS

- 1. Read Matthew 4:18-22** Imagine being one of these disciples. Jesus comes to your job and asks you to follow...would you? If he did that to you today, what would you be "giving up?"
 - a. When do you remember God's call for your life becoming personal on your life?
- 2. Read Mark 1:16-20; Luke 5:1-11; John 1:35-51; Matthew 9:9-13;** Read the other accounts of disciples being called by Jesus. Does anything stand out to you?
 - a. Why did God choose these men? If you were God picking your team, who might you look for? People with more influence? Education? Authority?
 - b. Respond to this quote: **"Discipleship is direction not perfection."**
 - c. How do you determine the direction of your life? What direction are you currently pointed in?
- 3. Read 1 Timothy 1:12-17** What qualifications did Paul have to be an apostle at the time Jesus called him?
 - a. What things have you assumed disqualified you from discipleship, but are maybe the exact things that God wants to use in your life?
- 4. Read Genesis 17:1-8**
 - a. Did Abraham choose God or did God choose Abraham?
 - b. God's call was better for Abraham and for us. Have you chased other callings in your life only to realize that God's call was better?
- 5. Where is God calling you to make a shift? Today?**

PRAY

Pray that we would answer the call of God with our humility and shift into an identity He has for us. Pray that we would orient ourselves in the direction of Jesus.



"Discipleshift"

Matthew 4:18-22

July 9, 2023 – Pastor Ben Schrank

And Jesus said to them, "FOLLOW ME and I will make you fishers of men." (Matthew 4:19)

➔ JESUS

1) "Discipleship is DIRECTION not perfection."

"For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the OUTWARD appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." (1 Samuel 16:7)

2) "Discipleship looks DIFFERENT for each disciple."

"Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners--of whom I am the WORST" (1 Tim 1:15).

Past sin does not DISQUALIFY. Instead, it might be the place that God uses to DISPLAY His grace.

3) "Disciples recognize God's call is BETTER."

Discipleship requires a SHIFT.

For Next week Read John 3:1-17