

Matthew 4:18-22 // Follow Me

By Andrew Farhat

Getting Started

- *Larger LIFEGroups may consider splitting into same gender groups in order to facilitate more meaningful discussion.*
- *Groups will not have enough time to discuss every question. Leaders are encouraged to skip questions and make substitutions based on what's best for their group.*

Warm Ups (15 Min)

- Everyone go around and share a “High” from the week and a “Low” from the week.
- What comes to mind when you hear the phrase, “Disciple of Jesus?”

Scripture Study (30 Min)

- Read Matthew 4:18-22
- In Matthew 4:19, Jesus said: “Follow me.” As the disciples followed Jesus, they got to know Jesus’ identity, teaching, values, and mission. We also get to know Jesus, God the Son, as we follow Him around in the Gospels, and read what His Apostles wrote about Him in the New Testament. The whole Bible is one big story with Jesus as the Hero. Jesus said: “Everything written about me in the law of Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms must be fulfilled” (Luke 24:44), and “The Old Testament bears witness about me” (John 5:39).
- How do you go about gaining knowledge of Jesus’ teaching, values, and mission?
- Jesus said: “I will make you...” (Matthew 4:19). What do you suppose happened as the disciples followed Jesus around? How did his teachings and miracles impact their beliefs, values, and lives?
- Those who believed in Jesus had their lives changed forever. Some left their professions and became full time travelling missionaries. Others were healed, and went around telling people who healed them. Others were so committed to Jesus’ mission that they were unwilling to renounce their faith in Him, even if it meant their death.
- Take a moment and reflect upon God’s faithfulness in your life.
- Jesus said that the whole purpose of following Him is so that we will become “Fishers of men.” Paul said: “If have all knowledge but have not love I am nothing” (1 Corinthians 13:2, my paraphrase). The purpose of knowing Jesus is to reflect Jesus in our relationships with our neighbors (in Scripture, your neighbor is anyone near to you). Our church’s vision is that we would love our neighbors and serve our city.
- What are some attainable ways for you to love non-believers near to you?

- Who are two or three non-believers that you can begin to pray for daily and build deeper friendship?

Group Prayer (15 Min)

Trios (20 Min)

Same gender groups of three. If numbers are uneven, go to groups of two.

- **Spiritual Velocity:**
 - How did you see God at work in your life this week?
 - What has God been teaching you in His Word as you've encountered it in this week's Life Journal readings, Sunday message, or LIFEGroup study?
 - What's an area of your life in which you know you need to repent or grow? How can we encourage you?
- **Joining Jesus on His Mission:**
 - What kind of conversations are you having with non-Christians? How's your 3-2-1 challenge going? Share about connections you're building and spiritual conversations you're having with non-believing neighbors and friends.
 - List the names of non-Christians in your life that you can pray for:

 - What good can we do around here? (Missional party? Service project?)
 - How can we help each other, our neighbors, and our city in prayer?