

Following Jesus: Serving Others Matthew 9:35-38

This guide is intended to help you be better prepared to engage in making disciples in your small group. They are based off of the Sunday sermon listed in the top right corner. If you missed Sunday, make sure you take the time to listen to the sermon before your small group meeting. You can find the messages on our website.

Prayerfully considering these questions will help equip you to practice mutual ministry with your family at Vertical. While it's not likely that all of these questions will be asked during your small group meeting, we believe that your personal walk with Christ will be strengthened as you meditate upon the truths that God is teaching you through His Word.

- 1. What does ministering for Jesus with the wrong motivation look like? What does ministering with Jesus look like with the right motivation?
- 2. In what places are you connecting with people in everyday life? How can you be using those opportunities to bring the gospel to them?
- 3. Who comes to mind when you consider who is close to you but far from God?
- 4. Pastor Craig said Jesus saw people through the eyes of relational poverty. When you see the people around you what "eyes" do you see them through? How does your vision need to change to see others with the eyes of Christ?
- 5. Gospel-intentional conversations are vital to ministry and follow Jesus' example of "proclaiming the gospel of the Kingdom" (Matt. 9:35) but he also saw and met people where they were and took care of physical needs. How can you grow in meeting the needs of the people around you?
- 6. Jesus' ministry was characterized by compassion. What keeps you from having compassion for others? How can your thinking change to more clearly see people the way Jesus saw people?
- 7. Jesus intentionally ministered to the people while intentionally discipling a group of twelve men. How are you intentionally ministering to the lost around you? How are you intentionally discipling someone less mature in the faith?
- 8. Prayer must be a vital part of our ministering with Jesus. How would you characterize your prayers for more co-laborers?
- Share with the group who your 3 people are and your plans for 2023 to: a) advance acquaintance to friendship and b) share your story with them.