

## **BREAKING THE ICE**

- Think about this past week: Name one thing you are grateful for and one thing you learned.
- Have you ever experienced something in life that was way better than you imagined? How did that experience impact you?

## MAIN CONTENT

In weeks one and two of our series, "Find & Follow" Pastor Kevin discussed the importance of discipleship, the Great Commandment and the Great Commission. We learned that to be a disciple means to be a fully devoted follower of Jesus. The Great Commandment is to love God and love others. The Great Commission, which Jesus gave as His last command, is that we are called to go and make disciples of all nations. Before you dive into the questions, read Matthew 28:18-20 and Matthew 22:37-40.

Jesus made it simple for us when He says to love God and love others and then to go and make disciples of all nations, yet there are times when it feels challenging.

1. What is a disciple and how do we make one? Why is this sometimes difficult for Christians to do? What does it look like in your life currently, or in the past, to "go and make disciples"?

We learned in the message that Jesus was a rabbi. Rabbi's are scholars and teachers of the Jewish Law. In fact, rabbis would often be able to recite the first five books of the Bible known as the "Torah" and had the authority to interpret the Old Testament to others. Because of this, Jesus was trusted, respected and someone that many wanted to follow.

2. Why do you think a person who is a non-believer would decide to follow Jesus in today's world? What is it about Jesus that makes us as Christians want to follow Him? Name some of the characteristics of God and how they have impacted your story.

As a rabbi, Jesus was expected to call only those who were the very best and exceptionally qualified to be His disciples, yet, Jesus asked people who were what we would call "dropouts". He called those who were considered "unqualified" and average to follow Him.

- 3. Have you ever experienced a time when you felt unqualified or not good enough for something? How did that feel?
- 4. Have you ever had someone see qualities and skills in you that you did not see in yourself? Share with the group.
- 5. What does it mean to have an identity in Christ? How does this affect the way we live?

Pastor Kevin broke down the Great Commission into three areas: Invitation, Transformation and Replication. When Jesus invites us to follow, He is inviting us into a relationship with Him rather than following religious rules. He wants us to continually grow closer to Him because He loves us and cares for us as His children.

6. What is the difference between following a religion versus following Jesus? Why does this matter?

After we commit to following Jesus, the Holy Spirit begins the work of transformation. Transformation begins on the inside and works its way out in the ways that we live. This could look like serving, sharing the Gospel, joining a group, or in our weekly priorities and habits. Kevin compared transformation to a gardening technique called pruning. Read John 15:1-8

7. What has transformation looked like in your life? How have you seen the work of the Holy Spirit in others? Share with the group either your story of transformation or of someone you know.

Following transformation, we are called to a process of replication or multiplication. This means stepping into the Great Commission as Jesus gave us in Matthew 28:18-20.

8. After two weeks of hearing about the Great Commission "to go and make disciples", what is one step you can take this week to be a part of that mission?

## **CLOSING PRAYER**

God, thank you for who you are. Thank you for your vision and mission in our lives. Please help us to take one step closer to you this week and help us share with others what you have done for us. May our stories declare your glory. Lord, we know you are a God that goes before us and comes after us, so we pray that in our week, we acknowledge and experience your presence. We thank you for your love, your faithfulness and your leadership every day. Bring opportunities and give us confidence to share more about you this week. We praise you for all you've done for us and for all you will do in the coming days. We glorify your good and Holy name. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

## **ACTION STEP**

- -Take some time this week to write down the names of people in your life who do not know Jesus. Consider what steps you can take to share about Jesus with them.
- -Practice sharing your story of how you started following Jesus with others. Think of your life before Jesus, after finding Him and what it's been like following Jesus. Practice sharing this with others in two minutes or less. If you are someone who has always grown up in the church, consider sharing how your life has transformed over time and practice sharing that.
- -Practice taking a step by using your time and talents to help your community by serving at Serve The City this Saturday, September 23. It's not too late to sign-up for an opportunity: Crosspoint.tv/local
- -Follow along with our new Find & Follow Podcast series on the Cross Point Church Podcast on Wednesdays where we will hear stories of discipleship happening at Cross Point. To listen and receive the new episode release emails: crosspoint.tv/podcasts