

# Small Group Study Guide



March 21, 2021 "Share: Going Fishing"

## **OPENING PRAYER**

Heavenly Father, thank you for the people who have come before us that extended an invitation to us so that we could experience your Son. Today we ask you to help us be the Body of Christ that allows people to experience you in a healthy way. So would you give each of us the wisdom to know what to do with what we learn today and then give us the courage to share the good news. We pray this in the matchless and timeless name of Jesus. Amen.

## **SCRIPTURE PASSAGES:**

## John 1:35-46 (NIV)

<sup>35</sup> The next day John was there again with two of his disciples. <sup>36</sup> When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, "Look, the Lamb of God!"

<sup>37</sup> When the two disciples heard him say this, they followed Jesus. <sup>38</sup> Turning around, Jesus saw them following and asked. "What do you want?"

They said, "Rabbi" (which means "Teacher"), "where are you staying?"

39 "Come," he replied, "and you will see."

So they went and saw where he was staying, and they spent that day with him. It was about four in the afternoon.

<sup>40</sup> Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. <sup>41</sup> The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, "We have found the Messiah" (that is, the Christ). <sup>42</sup> And he brought him to Jesus.

Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You will be called Cephas" (which, when translated, is Peter).

- <sup>43</sup> The next day Jesus decided to leave for Galilee. Finding Philip, he said to him, "Follow me."
- <sup>44</sup> Philip, like Andrew and Peter, was from the town of Bethsaida. <sup>45</sup> Philip found Nathanael and told him, "We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom the prophets also wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph."
- 46 "Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?" Nathanael asked.
- "Come and see," said Philip.



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# **SCRIPTURE PASSAGES (continued):**

## Matthew 5:13-16 (NIV)

<sup>13</sup> "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

14 "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

### INTRODUCTION

From the earliest days of the church until today, people become followers of Jesus in the exact same way: through an invitation. But many people today are uncomfortable sharing their faith for various reasons and they believe that their faith is private. So why does a fully devoted follower of Jesus need to share their faith?

Jesus gave us our marching orders to go and create new followers of His and that we are to be the light of the world. There are tens of thousands of people who live near our church. Many of them don't know Jesus. As fully devoted followers of Jesus, we want them to experience what we've experienced. So, we invest in relationships with them. And when the time is right, we invite them into an environment where they may have a life changing encounter with their Savior.

#### **QUESTIONS**

- 1) How did you end up attending your church? What drew you there?
- 2) When you hear the word "evangelism," what comes to mind? Is your response to the word positive or negative? Why?
- 3) Read John 1:35–46 on page 1. How does what happened in this passage differ from the way most people think about evangelism?
- 4) If Jesus modeled a "come and see" approach to evangelism, what kind of place does the church have to be for people to see Jesus when they come?
- 5) Read Matthew 5:13-16 on page 1. What are some practical ways that you are salt and light in the lives of people in your circle of influence?
- 6) Who is one person in your sphere of influence that you can invest in or invite to church? What is it about that person that makes it easy for you to connect with him or her?

### FINAL APPLICATION

What is one thing you can do this week to invest in that person?