



**The Gospel of Matthew**  
**Wk 3/3: Jesus' Model of Discipleship**  
**April 4 & 5, 2020**



## LEADER PREP

### GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

To allow students to talk about where they are on the discipleship path and consider what is next and what it will take to get them to the next step.

### SCRIPTURE

EXPLORE: Matthew 4:18-20

EXPERIENCE: Jesus giving the people the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5)

PRACTICE: Jesus calling and leading the disciples (starts in Matthew 10)

GO: Matthew 28:18-20

### THINK ABOUT THIS

We all have a next step, but a lot of us don't KNOW we are ready for it. Part of leading is pulling the potential out of others. If you know that certain students are ready for a next step—even if they don't see it themselves—let them know what YOU see in THEM! It's called an 'ICNU' conversation, because we literally tell someone "I see \_\_\_\_\_ in you." If they do doubt themselves and what they believe, go to Matthew 28:16—some disciples doubted too. But Jesus still sent them out.

*This guide is a suggestion, not a formula. Adjust the questions and activities as needed, and don't feel like you need to do, or ask, everything you see here. Let the students and the Holy Spirit guide the conversation, too.*

## CONVERSATION GUIDE

### MAIN POINT

**Discipleship is not a one-time YES to Jesus, it's a lifelong journey.**

### GET THEM TALKING

Have you ever been stuck somewhere? Shopping with your mom, vacation with your siblings, or in traffic? What made it so terrible?

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Would you call yourself a 'Christian'? Why or why not?
2. Would you call yourself a 'disciple of Jesus'? Why or why not?
3. What is the difference, do you think, between the popular phrase, "I am a Christian" and actually being a disciple of Jesus?
4. Review the phases of discipleship---what were they?

**ACTIVITY: On the back of this sheet is an outline of discipleship path. Have students write their own names on it as an activity. Let them know it's ok to be in a different place from others; this isn't an activity to judge but to help us realize where we are and what our next step is. We can all be in different places and that is ok.**

5. Why did you chose the step you did to write your name?
6. What is preventing you from taking your next step?
7. What can you do to take your next step?

### NEXT STEP

Have students write their name and "goal next step" for the week on a notecard. Collect them and follow-up with your students with a reminder and encouragement---to hit their goal.

### PRAYER GUIDE

Ask your students to share their prayer requests. Close your time together in prayer.

# 4

## DISCIPLE- SHIP STEPS

JESUS INVITES US OFF THE  
SIDELINES INTO A TRUE  
DISCIPLESHIP PROCESS

HE LAYS OUT THAT PROCESS IN THE  
GOSPEL OF MATTHEW IN FOUR  
STEPS: EXPLORE, EXPERIENCE,  
PRACTICE, GO

Everyone write your own names on  
the cycle where you think you are.  
It's ok to be in a different place  
from others, we will probably all be  
in different places!

