



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2017

360 DISCUSSION GUIDE



The first thing that leaps off the page when we read the gospel accounts of Jesus' call to the first disciples is the abruptness of Jesus' call and the immediacy of the disciples response. It is not hard to imagine a boat gently resting on the shore, nets drying in the sun and three sets of fresh footprints headed down the beach. Peter and Andrew left everything to follow Jesus.

What we often miss is the fact that Jesus' call was a call to mission. His invitation was not simply, "Why don't you hang out with me; we'll enjoy each other's company; and tease out some really rich theological concepts in the comfort of our living rooms." It was far more bold. Far more intentional. Far more uncomfortable. He challenged his first disciples, who were knee deep in fishing nets at the time, to "Follow me, and I will send you out to fish for people."

You can draw a straight line from Jesus' call to Peter and Andrew to his final moments with the disciples on a mountain in Galilee. He ends where he began. He picks up the broken pieces of the disciples' lives and commissions them for the mission he initially called them to.

Another nice piece to the story, is that once Jesus calls them to mission, he sits down and teaches them about the character of that mission. The Sermon on the Mount is, at its heart, a missional message.

I recognize the environments where I live, work, and play as the primary spaces where the gospel will be on display in my life.

1 2 3 4

Those around me are noticing a genuine change of heart and character that flows from a my relationship with Christ.

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1 2 3 4

My primary concern in all my interactions with others (from the girl behind the counter at the "Stop and Go" to those I live and work with) is to represent Christ well.

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I know my neighbors by name and interact with them on a friendly basis.

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I approach my work as an opportunity to glorify God through a job well done and to enrich the lives of others in the work I produce and the way I interact with them.

1 2 3 4

I pray for those around me who do not know Christ, for opportunities to talk about Christ, and for the boldness to speak up when those opportunities present themselves.

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I am comfortable talking about my relationship with Christ in the course of normal conversation.

1 2 3 4

I am serving the poor and the marginalized in my community for the sake of Christ and his gospel.

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CALLED FOR MISSION (Matthew 4:18-20)

¹⁸ As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹ “Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will send you out to fish for people.” ²⁰ At once they left their nets and followed him.

1. What is striking about Matthew’s portrayal of Jesus’ call to Peter and Andrew?
2. What did Peter and Andrew leave behind in order to follow Jesus?
3. What did Jesus call Peter and Andrew to?
4. Think about how Jesus’ call to Peter and Andrew might translate to you.
 - a. What would Jesus ask you to leave behind?
 - b. What would Jesus ask you to do?

THE HEART AND CHARACTER OF OUR MISSION (Matt 5:13-16)

¹³ “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.

1. Who is Jesus speaking to?
2. How does he describe their role?
3. What happens if they fail to fulfill their role?
4. How are they to fulfill their role?
5. What do you think it means for you to be “salt” and “light”?

SENT OUT FOR MISSION (Matthew 28:16-20)

¹⁶ Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. ¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸ Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

1. What do you make of the disciples’ response to the risen Christ?
2. How does Jesus deal with their doubts?
3. What does Jesus call them to do?
4. What does Jesus call us to do?
5. How well are you doing what Jesus called you to do?

BEING A MISSIONAL PEOPLE

Our desire at Christ Church is to lead people to know and love Christ and be His church for our city. We not only exist for the comfort and care of one another we exist for the welfare of our community—to be salt and light. We’ve challenged our leaders to model a missional mindset, and thought you might benefit from an exercise we recently led them through.

Before we lead our groups “Be His Church for Our City” we need to consider how well we are modeling these ideals. As you read through the following statements think about how often they show up in your own life.

1=Never; 2=Some of the Time; 3=More Often than Not; 4=Consistently

FOR OUR CITY

We are His Church for our city as we live out the reality of the gospel where we live, work, and play—displaying the love of Christ and hope of the gospel in all we say and do.

I am cultivating a vital and growing relationship with Christ through meaningful time in the word and prayer.

1 2 3 4

Those around me are noticing a genuine change of heart and character that flows from a my relationship with Christ.

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