

LIFEGROUP STUDY
FOLLOW ME: WHAT DO YOU WANT?
FEB. 21, 2021

LEADER NOTES

OVERVIEW

Welcome to our LifeGroup study, Follow Me. Over the six-weeks leading up to Easter, we're looking at the invitation Jesus gives us – Follow Me. Saying “yes” to this invitation will reorient our lives and upend our priorities – in a good way! Throughout this series, we're going to explore accounts of when Jesus invited people in Scripture to follow Him. As we look into these accounts, we'll understand more of how His invitation should impact our lives today. This week we'll look at a question Jesus asked his disciples and a blind beggar – “What do you want?” The way we answer this question can frame our discipleship to Jesus. Let's dive into this week's study and ask, “What do you want?”

ICEBREAKER I Really Wanted It!

When I was about 10 years old, I really wanted a Mr. Maxx remote control van. I still remember the TV commercial where they showed that super cool looking van wheeling around the house. I wanted that van, and I never got that van! Think back to when you were a kid. What was something you really wanted, something you just had to have? Did you get it? Did you not get it? What have you learned about stuff you really wanted back then?

STUDY

1. To kick off our series, Follow Me, Pete focused on Jesus' question to his first disciples – “What do you want?” He said this question should echo in our minds every step of the way as we follow Jesus. **What do you think about this idea?**

LEADER NOTE: The question, “What do you want?” can have a shaping influence in our discipleship to Jesus. It addresses the thoughts and desire of our heart. It looks into our values and priorities. It opens us up to questions like - ‘Who is really leading my life?’ “What voices am I listening to and following?” “Is my heart open today to hearing from and following Jesus?” It can move us from following our own path to following in the way of Jesus.

2. On Sunday, Pete said that our response to Jesus should come from a humble posture, where we acknowledge that we are “blind” and don't actually know what we're looking for. **Why is it important to confess we might not actually know what we want?**

LEADER NOTE: Like the disciples in Mark 10, we may think we know what we want but we don't actually know what we're looking for. When we confess we don't know what we want, we become like Bartimaeus. We reach out in faith and call to Jesus for help. Confessing is admitting to God, “I can't do it on my own. I need You.” Confession paves the way for God's power to go to work in our lives. Confession opens our heart to hear from Him and be shaped by Him.

3. Read Mark 10:35-52 – the disciples’ response (35-45) vs. Bartimaeus’ response (46-52). In these passages, Jesus asks a similar question and gets two very different responses. **Why do you think Mark has placed these two stories side by side? What is Mark trying to highlight for us?**

LEADER NOTE: In these stories we get to both compare and contrast two very different responses to the question, “What do you want?” Mark likely placed these stories side by side so we could note these different responses and learn that how we respond to Jesus’ question shows what’s in our heart. By placing these stories side by side, Mark highlights how we need Jesus to show us what we really want. We need his teaching and power to move away from desires that will destroy us and move toward desires that please and honour Him.

4. One of the things Jesus does when he comes into our lives is reveal that we are spiritually blind. **How has Jesus opened up your eyes to things you never knew or saw before?**

LEADER NOTE: Jesus can open our eyes to a new *perspective*. We begin to see the world through the eyes of Jesus. He can open our eyes to new *values*. We begin to value the things of the kingdom over the things of our world. He can open our eyes to new *priorities* – following Jesus, loving God and loving people.

5. Imagine Jesus asking you this question: “What do you want?” **What would you say today? Is your answer different than it would have been 5 or 10 years ago?**
6. The first question Jesus asks in John is translated, “What do you want?” or “What are you looking for?” **How could we allow this to shape how we interact with our non-Christian neighbors? How is this question different from other approaches?**

LEADER NOTE: The question, “What do you want?” is an invitation to follow Jesus. Rather than a confrontational approach to evangelism, or one that focuses on intellectual answers, the question, “What do you want?” addresses the heart. While it is certainly important to speak to the mind of the seeker, we must remember the importance of speaking to the heart. The question, what do you want, can be a powerful invitation to a first step of deciding to follow Jesus.

NEXT STEPS

For our series, Follow Me, we invite you to take next steps to grow your walk with God by spending time with Him. Here are 3 ways you can do that.

- 1) Watch the Daily Devos from Creekside. <https://vimeo.com/showcase/devotionals>
- 2) Use S.O.A.P. – a method of spending time with God – explained in the Daily Devos.
- 3) Engage with others from Creekside about your experience
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/3459966190810762>

PRAYER:

Let's pray this week for our Kid's Ministry at Creekside:

- That kids would accept Jesus as their Sin Forgiver and Life Lead
- For wisdom for our Kids Staff to work effectively to provide experiences and resources for families that will build their faith.
- That God would encourage parents in their role as spiritual leaders in their homes, influencing their children to live Godly lives.