FOLLOW ME: LET THE DEAD BURY THE DEAD March 7, 2021

PARTICIPANT NOTES

OVERVIEW

Welcome back to our LifeGroup study, Follow Me. Over the six-weeks leading up to Easter, we're looking at Jesus' invitation — "Follow Me". When Jesus gives us this invitation, he expects us to leave everything. The first disciples left a lucrative catch and future conversations with would-be disciples have Jesus telling the rich to leave everything and to "Let the dead bury the dead." Today in group, we'll explore a question that confronted 3 would-be disciples in Luke 9 - "What do you need to leave behind?" Our goal in asking this question is that we would recommit our highest allegiance to Jesus.

ICEBREAKER Out with the Old!

When it comes to hanging on to things, do you tend to hoard or declutter? Share a story with your group about something you just can't get rid of, or that thing you couldn't wait to get rid of!

STUDY

1. On Sunday, Pete emphasized there is urgency to Jesus' call, "Follow Me". What did he mean by this? How does this help shape how you see Jesus' call in your life?

READ Luke 9:57-62. The Cost of Following Jesus

- 2. Jesus seems harsh in this passage. Why do you think he is being so blunt/direct?
- 3. The first person in this account declares they would follow Jesus wherever he went. **Why do you think Jesus responded the way he did?** (see verses 57-58)
- 4. The second person in this account agrees to follow Jesus but then says, "Lord, first let me return home and bury my father." Read Jesus' response again in verse 60. What stands out to you about Jesus' response?

- 5. The third person in this account makes a verbal commitment to follow Jesus but then says, "...first let me go and say good-bye to my family." (vs. 61) Read Jesus' reply in verse 62. What did Jesus mean by this? How does this speak to His call on our lives today?
- 6. Two of the people in the passage say they need to "first" do something else before they follow Jesus. Jesus makes it clear to them that the first thing they need to do is follow him, right now. What things in your life do you find competing for your "first" that get in the way of following Jesus?
- 7. In today's passage, Jesus equates His call, "Follow Me" with being actively involved in the "Kingdom of God." (see vs. 60, 62) What does it look like for us to do this today?
- 8. Jesus words, "Follow Me" are an invitation for us to leave everything else behind. What have you left behind to follow Jesus?
- 9. What is a key takeaway for you from this week's study on Jesus' call, "Follow Me"?

PRAYER

- Pray for our partner church in Quito Ecuador, Carmen Bajo Alliance Church, as they continue to provide relief packages to the community, and for the church plant that they have started in the barrio of Subio Norte. Praise God for some families who have come to faith there and are forming the core of the church plant. Pray for God to build His Church there in the power of the Holy Spirit and through the witness of His people.
- Pray for our partner church Kitigoma Community Church near Jinja, Uganda, that the
 congregation would be strengthened in the Lord amidst so many concerns with Covid, the
 recent elections, and many questionning 'Why'. The economy is struggling and so are many.
 Pray for Pastor Robert and Justine as they lead their church through these tough times.