



The Gospel Of Mark

Home Group D-Guide

Follow Jesus, Fish For People

ICEBREAKER: When is it okay to lie?

OVERVIEW: There is a lot of confusion about what it means to be a Christian. Does it mean you are a fan of Jesus? That you have a relationship with Jesus? That you are saved and born again? That you serve Him? Is a Christian someone who believes in Jesus? Someone who follows His rules? Does being a Christian mean you go to church, read the Bible and pray? In Mark 1:16-20, we can find 3 marks of an authentic Christian. In this discussion we will go deeper and try to apply these marks to our lives.

1. Read Mark 1:16-20. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain. (Or what was your key takeaway from Sunday's message?)
2. Just as Jesus asked the fishermen to follow Him and be His disciples, the first mark of a Christian is to be a Christ-follower; to walk with Him in an intimate relationship, and to accept His teachings and lifestyle as your own. It is to go everywhere with Jesus, to listen closely to Him, to obey Him, and to imitate Him. Do you feel like you have this kind of relationship with Jesus? Explain.
3. In the four Gospels Jesus says "Believe in me" about five times. But He said "Follow me" about twenty times. What is the difference between a fan and a follower of Jesus?
4. What are some ways that you have become more like Jesus since becoming a Christ-follower? What are some ways that Christ is currently working on you be more like Him?

5. Jesus called the fishermen to drop everything, to stop everything, to leave it all and focus completely on Him. The second mark of a Christian is full devotion to Christ. It is to put Christ first in your life and forsake anything that might get in the way. Do you think you have this kind of relationship with Christ? Explain.
6. In the book "Not a Fan," Kyle Idleman wrote, "There is no way to follow Jesus without Him interfering with your life. Following Jesus will cost you something. Has following Jesus cost you anything?" How has Jesus interfered with your life and caused you to make changes and give up things and repent in order to put Him first?
7. What is the difference between a casual and a fully-devoted Christian? Which best describes you?
8. When Jesus called the men to follow Him with full devotion, He also called them to the ministry of fishing for people — evangelism. This is the third mark of an authentic Christian. What are the keys to being an effective soul-winner?
9. Who are you regularly praying for to be saved?
10. Who are you planning to invite to church this Easter and how?

The Last Word: Being a Christian means following Jesus, full devotion, and fishing for people. As followers of Jesus we need to be intentional, strategic, creative, and aggressive about going after the lost. Don't wait for them to come to you. Follow the example of Jesus and go to them.