

Connecting Group Study Guide

Knowing, Growing, Going

Week of July 17-23, 2016

Follow-up

1. Start by checking in with each other about your previous week.
2. Did you identify any “time-stealers” in your life from last week? What practical steps did you take to carve out more time to sit at the feet of Jesus? How did it go?

This week we began our series exploring discipleship. We emphasized looking at two calls that Jesus gives to his followers: (1) the call to follow him and (2) the call to go and make disciples. In our study for this week we will look at these callings a bit more.

Read the following two passages: Genesis 12:1-9 and Acts 9:1-19.

Knowing God (Encounter)

These two passages describe the calling of Abram (Abraham) and Saul (Paul). Both of these passages also describe an encounter with God.

1. Describe God’s call to both Abram and Saul. What is involved in each call? Are there any similarities in the callings given to these two men?
2. Think about the moment you first encountered God. Take a moment to describe the experience to the group.

Growing in Christ-likeness (Sanctification)

1. What are the implications of God’s calling to Abram (Gen. 12:2-3)?
2. What are the implications of God’s calling to Saul (Acts 9:15-19)?
3. What potential difficulties can you see for these two men inherent within their callings?

Going to Our Neighbors and the World (Obedience)

1. What is Abram’s response to God’s calling (Gen. 12:4)?
2. What is Saul’s response to God’s calling (Acts 19:18-22)?
3. How has God’s calling on your life been both a challenge and an encouragement?

Action Steps

In the example of Saul’s calling in Acts 9 we can see how God used another disciple to reach out to Saul.

- (1) Take some time to think about the people God has used in your life to help grow you in the faith.
- (2) God wants to also use you in the lives of other believers. Take some time to pray this week, asking God to show you with whom He may want you to enter into a discipling relationship?
 - Reach out to this person and invite them to begin meeting with you weekly.

Close in prayer together.