

## Week of October 4, 2021: JESUS AND THE DISCIPLES

## **Discussion Questions Set #1**

"The next day John was there again with two of his disciples. When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, "Look, the Lamb of God!" When the two disciples heard him say this, they followed Jesus. Turning around, Jesus saw them following and asked, "What do you want?" (John 1:35-38)

"You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart". (Jeremiah 29:13)

"So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened." (Luke 11:9-10)

"For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost". (Luke 19:10) "Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness ...". (Matthew 6:33)

- 1. Jesus' question in John 1:38 is likely better translated as "what is it you are seeking?". Why is it important for us, even as those committed to following Jesus, to ask ourselves this question?
- 2. Discuss the possible tension between a) us seeking Jesus and b) Jesus seeking us. How can we rightly understand this dynamic?
- 3. Why do you think that Scripture encourages a "whole heart" seeking of God?
- 4. Why ought seeking Christ and His kingdom be a first priority issue for the follower of Jesus? What might happen is it is not held in priority?
- 5. In a practical sense, how do we make seeking Christ a priority in our lives? What might the role of one's H2H group be in this? What might the greater church's role be in this?
- 6. In sermon, we discussed the idea that the disciples didn't allow their "nets to become anchors" (ie. they put down their fishing nets to immediately follow Jesus). Have you ever had to put down a net to follow Jesus? Are there any nets in your life that are in danger of becoming anchors?

## **Discussion Questions Set #2**

"Come," he replied, "and you will see." So they went and saw where he was staying, and they spent that day with him. It was about four in the afternoon. Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, "We have found the Messiah" (that is, the Christ). And he brought him to Jesus ... Philip found Nathanael and told him, "We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom the prophets also wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." "Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?" Nathanael asked. "Come and see," said Philip. (John 1: 39-42,45-46)

"The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God". (2 Corinthians 4:4)

"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me ... to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind" (Luke 4:18).

- 1. In our passage from John, we see that Jesus uses a "come and see" invitation, which the disciples Andrew and Philip replicate to others. Discuss the following aspects of a come and see invitation:
  - a. The invitation to come entails both presence, partnership and relationship.
  - b. The invitation to see entails something about the result of an encounter with Jesus.
  - c. The invitation to see entails divine interaction from blindness to sight.
- 2. Why do you think that much of our evangelism in 2021 involves a "go and see" invitation rather than a "come and see" invitation? What difference does this make in terms of both method and outcome of evangelism?
- 3. What might prevent you from issuing a "come and see" invitation to a friend, neighbour, co-worker or family member?
- 4. If we do issue a "come and see" invitation to another, who is it that bears the responsibility of the "see" portion of the invitation? Note that after spending just a few moments with Jesus, the disciples see Him as "the Messiah" (v.41), "the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom the prophets also wrote (v.45), and "the Son of God, the king of Israel" (v.49).

