

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

WEEK 2: Invitation to Follow



CONNECT MEMBERS TO EACH OTHER

When did you first become a follower of Jesus? Who introduced you to Him?

CONNECT MEMBERS TO GOD

If you came to faith as an older child, teenager, or adult, share with your group how your life changed after you began a relationship with Jesus.

LIFE APPLICATION

One of the guiding ideas of this series is "Religion says, change and you can join us. Jesus says, join us and you will change." Have you experienced that dichotomy in your faith walk?

In what ways have religious practices strengthened your faith? In what ways has religion set back your growth as a Christian?

How should it change the way you pray, think, speak or act this week?

GOSPEL READING

The Gospel reading for this message is from Matthew and is one you've likely heard before: Jesus said, **"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you."** (28:18-20). This is often referred to as the "Great Commission."

How do you think this verse challenges you as a disciple?

How does it challenge our church?

STOP AND THINK

Pastor Schlie refers to following Jesus as an "adventure." Like all adventures, it can be full of pitfalls and set-backs. In fact, Jesus says in Luke 9:23, **"If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me."**

Do you think modern Christians, particularly in the West, are really living out this command?