Discipleship as Imitation | Mark 3.13-15

Words, Ways and Works of Jesus

Study Guide

Introductory Discussion

(10 minutes)

Have you ever benefited from an introduction by a friend to a person, job, or opportunity? Talk about it with the group. What was it like? If you haven't, what sort of introduction would you like?

Discuss the Text

(10 minutes)

John1.35-51

Prior to watching the video, ask two or three people in the group to read the passage in a different translation. Some translations to consider (these are available in the YouVersion Bible app or other apps, or use your own hardcopy Bibles):

ESV (English Standard Version) or LSB (Legacy Standard Bible)

CSB (Christian Standard Bible) or NIV (New International Version)

NLT (New Living Translation) or GNB (Good News Bible)

Then discuss the following:

- As a group, retell the story without looking at the text.
- Is there anything you don't understand? (See if the group has any wisdom)
- Does anything stand out to you?
- Imagine you're a disciple of John seeing Jesus for the first time. How do you feel? What are you thinking?
- Now imagine you're Peter hearing from your brother. What are you thinking?
- What can we learn from this passage about following Jesus today?

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Teaching Video

(20 minutes)

Watch the accompanying teaching video <3. Relational Pathways>

Discussion

- Can you think of other examples of relational networks (whether, in the Bible, your experience of disciple-making, or examples from everyday life).
- What are the advantages of following relational networks?
- Can you think of any dangers or pitfalls to this method?
- Can you think of people in your relational networks who might be people of peace to you?
- Can you think of places where you might find people of peace, whether places familiar or unexpected?

Pray

Spend a few minutes praying for each other that God will help you identify people of peace in your relational networks and make you alert to the opportunities.

If prayer is new to you, simply go around the group and pray for the person on your right, "God, I pray that you will help [name] grow in [name whatever it is they said]. Amen."