

SCRIPTURE CARD GUIDE FOR GROUP DISCUSSION

"THE CALL" SEPTEMBER 18 & 19

SERIES OVERVIEW:

More than any other historical figure Jesus has been studied and written about and yet so many still wonder, who is Jesus, really? Cutting through the noise is the fast paced action packed Gospel of Mark. Mark presents the life of Jesus in two symmetrical acts: His IDENTITY as the King over all things and His PURPOSE in dying on the cross. As we explore the life of Jesus we will find Him to be unpredictable but reliable, meek but powerful, authoritative but humble, human but divine. As we encounter Jesus we must all consider the significance of the life of Jesus the King in our own lives.

Follow the directions below for a guided group discussion with a friend, in a family, small group, etc. Grab a Scripture Card (printed or electronic) and simply follow steps from 1 to 6 on this page and the next.

1

OPENING PRAYER:

About 2 minutes

Ask a volunteer to open in prayer.

2

BIG IDEA:

About 1 minute to read

Out of His great authority Jesus calls us into a relationship with Him where every aspect of our lives are shaped by following Him. The Call to follow Him is far more than good advice, it is Good News and that distinction changes everything.

3

INTRO QUESTION:

About 10 minutes

How do you feel when someone tells you what you should do for your physical health when you know you are not doing it?

Contrast this with how you might feel hearing the doctor say, "You have been completely restored and healed!".



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¹⁴ Later on, after John was arrested, Jesus went into Galilee, where he preached God's Good News. ¹⁵ "The time promised by God has come at last!" he announced. "The Kingdom of God is near! Repent of your sins and believe the Good News!" - Mark 1:14-15 NLT

Reflect 

Read the full passage in your Bible - Mark 1:14-22, 29-34.
What word or phrase is the Holy Spirit highlighting from the scripture reading?

What might God be calling you to repent of or realign in your life?

What would acting upon this or obeying God look like? Be curious...and then do it.

4

SCRIPTURE READING + GROUP DISCUSSION

About 40-45 minutes

Good advice is what someone says you should do. Good News is what Jesus has already done for you! What has Jesus done for you and how has that impacted your life this week?

From Mark 1:15:

- "The Kingdom of God is near." Discuss what the Kingdom of God is like. (For help, search BibleGateway.com for "Kingdom of heaven" and "Kingdom of God". Read the passages.)
- "Repent..." Means turning toward God. In what ways this week did you need to turn back toward Jesus? As you listen to His voice, what would He say to you?
- "...believe the Good News!" Believing does not simply change our minds, but changes our hearts, actions, and lives. What small action do you think Jesus would have you do in response to His Good News?



DISCUSSION HELP:

Use follow-up questions to take the discussion deeper. Guide answers to be honest and real.

Can you say more about that?

How have you seen that play out in your life?

What does that stir up in you?

Has anyone else had a similar thought or experience?

What might God be inviting you to do?

5 LIVE IT OUT:

About 3 minutes

Read this section aloud. Invite the group to take the steps suggested. Discuss next time what the Lord revealed to you in this prayer time.

TAKE IT DEEPER



Live It Out 

Start with Prayer...Father, who is someone in my life who needs to hear the good news of Jesus? Lift them up in prayer. Share your fears with God, asking him to lead you to actually share this good news with them. When will you do that this week? Remember to keep praying.

Pray 

Talk to God about his call (just like the first disciples) to follow him.

Share your heart with God...how has this good news shaped your life? How do you want it to?

Thank God that he created you to receive this good news AND to share it.

6

CLOSING GROUP PRAYER:

About 15 minutes

Read the prayer section on the card aloud, and take a moment of silence for each person to reflect on the prayer prompt personally.

Break into pairs. Pray for your partner now using the prayer prompts.