



## Session 2

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### Before + After

#### **BIG IDEA**

In the book of John, we meet character after character who experience radical transformation when they encounter Jesus.

#### **OPENING QUESTION**

It's hard to grow in spiritual maturity without asking good questions.

What are some questions about the Christian faith that you are still working through?

#### **GROUP DISCUSSION**

- Read this passage: John 1:43-51. Twice out loud, in different versions of the Bible – everyone listens.
- What are some significant observations you have about this text? What stood out? What didn't you like? What was confusing?
- What does this passage teach us about God? How does it change how I see God?
- What does this passage teach us about humanity/ourselves? How would it change how I treat others?
- What does this passage teach us about obedience and following the way of Jesus? How should it affect the way I live?

A disciple of Jesus is someone who is following Jesus, being changed by Jesus, and committed to the mission of Jesus.

August 17  
WEEKEND

#### **Thought:**

Heroic faith isn't usually cognitive certainty. It's the willingness to be faithful in the face of uncertainty.

#### **Questions:**

Who is someone you have watched persevere through difficult circumstances and uncertainty?

What was it about how that person navigated the difficulty that stood out to you?

#### **Thought:**

Sometimes it can seem like the questions about faith are something we should already know. Or we may have grown up in environments where those questions did not feel wanted or welcome.

#### **Share:**

Did you grow up in an environment that welcomed questions about faith?

Do you feel like you have a place where you can explore the questions you have today?

What do people look for today to find meaning in life?

#### **Thought:**

We see the followers of Jesus are not established, powerful people with influence and from important places. In fact it is quite the opposite is true. He invites people from all walks of life to follow him. These people found that the way of Jesus was the way to the life they were designed for.

#### **ACTION STEPS**

*I will statement...*

Based on what God is teaching in this passage, what should I do? Reflect for a minute or two and develop an action statement. As disciples this helps us to be changed by Jesus. Put it in the form, "I Will \_\_\_\_\_". Make it concrete, simple, and achievable.