Discussion Guide

Discussion Guides accompany the weekly message.

Opening Activity:
Formation map: Choose one word—WELCOMED, CHALLENGED, TRUSTED, or SENT. Name a person who helped you grow in that way, and briefly share the story.

Read:
Acts 11:19-26
John 16:7-8
2 Timothy 2:1-2

Discussion Questions:

1. **FIRST RESPONSE:** What from the message encouraged, unsettled, or challenged you? What does your reaction reveal about how you think people become more like Jesus?
2. **LOOK BACK:** Who gave you ordinary weeks—not just one big moment—and stayed long enough for real change to grow? What did their presence make possible in your life with Jesus?
3. **NOTICE BARNABAS:** Read Acts 11:22-26. Barnabas noticed God's grace, encouraged faithfulness, found Saul, and stayed to teach. Which action is easiest for you? Which do you tend to skip?
4. **LOOK WITHIN:** Sit quietly for 30 seconds. Where are you still "on the fence"—knowing Jesus' way but resisting it? What loving, honest challenge might help you take a step? Share what you are ready to share.
5. **LISTEN FOR THE SPIRIT:** Lasting transformation is the Holy Spirit's work; we cannot manufacture it. How can Scripture, prayer, wise believers, humility, and Christlike fruit help us test a nudge to challenge or encourage someone?
6. **LOOK TOGETHER:** In Antioch, the disciples became recognizable as people who belonged to Christ. If someone watched this group for a year, what evidence of Jesus should become more visible? Choose one group practice that could help.
7. **STEP FORWARD:** Name one person you will faithfully stay with, then complete: "With the Holy Spirit's help, this week I will…" After each person shares, respond together: "We will pray and help you stay."

Challenge for the Week:
The Stay Challenge: Write down the person from Question 7. Pray for them each day, make one meaningful contact this week, and ask one honest question. Do not force an outcome or treat them like a project. Stay available, follow the Spirit, and share life long enough for trust—and change—to grow.

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