



CHRIST'S CHURCH

WEEK 1 – MAIN FOCUS

Jesus is worth leaving everything behind to follow him. I will submit every area of my life to Jesus because Jesus is better than the things of this world and only in him can I find complete satisfaction and fulfillment.

MAIN SCRIPTURE

Matthew 4:18-22

Mark 1:16-20

Luke 5:1-11

ADDITIONAL VERSES

Matthew 9:9-13

Mark 2:1-12

1 John 2:15-17

PERSONAL REFLECTION

In Jesus' invitation, we see a call and a cost. The call deals with what he's inviting us to walk toward, and the cost deals with what he's inviting us to walk away from.

- What is Jesus' call & cost to you right now?
- Why do we look to physical things to satisfy us? In what ways are you more concerned about your physical desires rather than your spiritual desire for God? What needs to change in your life?

AT HOME DISCUSSION

Share when and why you started following Jesus. How did Jesus seek you out and call you to follow him?

- Why does Jesus seek people and call them to follow him? Why does Jesus value people? What do these verses show about Jesus' heart?
- According to Mark 2:1-12 and your personal experiences, what do you know about the power of Jesus' forgiveness? Why is forgiveness our ultimate need?

LIFE-GROUP DISCUSSION

Share how and why Jesus is good news in your life. Share what areas of your life you struggle to follow God.

- What do these passages reveal about who Jesus is and His mission on earth?
- Because of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, what is now true about our identity and purpose in this world?
- How do you need to respond?



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PERSONAL CHALLENGE

These are the moments I am more inclined to abandon God, so I am going to make sure to do this instead...

This is what it looks like, sounds like, smells like, tastes like, and feels like for me to follow God this week...

Pray that God would teach you to say no to all ungodliness and worldly passions (Titus 2:12). Pray that you would love God with all your heart, soul, strength, and mind (Mark 12:30).

AT HOME CHALLENGE

As a family, make a plan of how and when you are going to read scripture together as a family. If everyone in your family has a smartphone or access to one, consider starting a reading plan on YouVersion and select “read with friends.”

Pray that you would follow Jesus with every area of your life. Pray that you would desire him more than anything in this world (1 John 2:15).

LIFE-GROUP CHALLENGE

Think about how God has changed your life. Share this with someone to encourage them this week.

Pray that your group would more fully understand the mission of Jesus and allow him to lead your group as you live your life focused on the mission of Jesus.



CHRIST'S CHURCH

WEEK 2 – MAIN FOCUS

Jesus has the authority to calm the storms in my life, but even if they continue longer than I want, I know Jesus is still in control and cares deeply about me.

MAIN SCRIPTURE

Matthew 8:23-27

Mark 4:35-41

Luke 8:22-25

ADDITIONAL VERSES

Matthew 14:22-33

Psalms 65:5-7

Psalms 89:8-9

PERSONAL REFLECTION

Storms help us mine the depths of panic, real peace, and Jesus' power. There is a difference between not paying attention to the storm and not being worried about the storm.

- Is the storm you're in now getting more of your attention than Jesus?
- How does remembering God's character and God's power put things into perspective?
- In what areas of your life are you relying on your own strength/competency/abilities instead of Jesus' power?

AT HOME DISCUSSION

As you read the three accounts of Jesus calming the storm, pretend you are on a scavenger hunt looking for all the details about this story.

- What small details do you notice when you read the three accounts of Jesus calming the storm? Why are these details important for us readers? How do they help us trust the accuracy of the gospel accounts of Jesus?
- What are the disciples concerned about? In what ways do you share this same concern? How have you struggled and dealt with those feelings?

LIFE-GROUP DISCUSSION

- Put yourself in the boat with them, what would that have been like? What would you say or do? Why is this an unusual response from the disciples?
- What do we learn about who Jesus is and his power and authority in these verses?
- In what ways has God previously shown his control, perfect timing, and power that I need to remember? In your life? In Scripture? In the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus?
- Who can you have speak the truth of God's greatness into your life when you are struggling with your faith? How can this group help?



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PERSONAL CHALLENGE

The best time to prepare for a storm is before you even know it is coming. The same is true for spiritual storms. When storms arise in my life that causes me to have doubts and fear, I going to remind myself that God loves me and is with me during this storm by...

Pray to God to help you not forget whose boat you are in even in the midst of storms. Pray that you would choose peace over panic because you trust Him. Ask the Holy Spirit for peace that passes all understanding (Philippians 4:7).

AT HOME CHALLENGE

As a family, brainstorm ideas of how you can prepare spiritually for a storm.

For example, you could write down on index cards spiritual truths of who God is and what he has done and place those truths around your house. You could put a spiritual truth card on your mirror to remind yourself that God has given you a new identity.

Pray that you would use the armor of God to withstand the attacks of evil and that you would have the boldness to proclaim the gospel to everyone around you (Ephesians 6:13-19).

LIFE-GROUP CHALLENGE

Start with one person and have everyone else in your group pray for that person. Then move on to the next person and have your entire group pray for them. Do that until everyone has been prayed for by everyone else in the group.

Pray that God would protect, sanctify, and send your group into the world (John 17:15-19).



CHRIST'S CHURCH

WEEK 3 – MAIN FOCUS

Jesus has authority over death and will bring me through the very darkest times safely and refreshed in his presence, but even if he seems delayed in his timing, I will stay focused on him and his grace.

MAIN SCRIPTURE

Luke 10:38-42
John 11:1-44

ADDITIONAL VERSES

John 12:1-7
Psalm 27:4
Matthew 6:25-34

PERSONAL REFLECTION

- In what ways are you like Martha trying to prove yourself to Jesus?
- In what ways are you spending time in the presence of Jesus? How can you spend more time present with Jesus?
- What limitations does your faith have when it comes to Jesus' ability to deal with the issues going on in your life?

AT HOME DISCUSSION

- How would you describe your relationship with Jesus right now? Which person are you in these stories?
- Do you have friends who believe that being close to Jesus is important? Why should we choose friends who believe that being close to Jesus is important?
- Do you have friends who believe that being honest with Jesus is important? Why is it helpful to have friends like this?

LIFE-GROUP DISCUSSION

- Have you tried to prove yourself to other people? To God? What impact has this had on your life? What might change in your life if you truly experienced the grace of God?
- What would it look like for you to be honest about where you are right now in life and your faith in God? Is there anything in your life right now that, if it were to be exposed today, would bring dishonor to Jesus Christ, the church, or your family?
- How does a relationship with Christ strengthen and enable Christ-followers to navigate living and dying with hope? Why should followers of Jesus face death differently than the world?



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PERSONAL CHALLENGE

To be focused on Jesus and “present at his feet,” I am going to do this today...

Pray that you would have the strength to follow Jesus and throw off everything that hinders you and the sin that so easily entangles you. Ask God for perseverance as you run the race of faith and that you would keep your eyes fixed on Jesus who is the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. (Hebrews 12:1-2)

AT HOME CHALLENGE

As a family, memorize John 11:25-26

Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me, even if he dies, will live. Everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?”

Pray that you would believe God and trust him with every area of your life. Thank God that we can have abundant life only through him (John 10:10).

LIFE-GROUP CHALLENGE

As a group, come alongside someone and be good news in their life. For example, your group knows someone who is mourning so you come alongside them to encourage, pray, and support them.

Pray through this week’s scriptures. You could pray through Luke 10:38-42 in the following way. God, help us to welcome people into our houses but not get distracted or worried. Help us to be alert and attentive to you, the only thing that matters.



CHRIST'S CHURCH

WEEK 4 – MAIN FOCUS

Jesus calls us to himself even when we are furthest from him. Because it is only through Jesus that I can receive salvation, I do not have to fear other people or the things of this world.

MAIN SCRIPTURE

Luke 19:1-10

ADDITIONAL VERSES

Luke 5:27-32

Luke 15:1-32

Luke 18:15-17

PERSONAL REFLECTION

- What distractions or obstacles did Zacchaeus have to overcome to get to Jesus? What barriers did you have to overcome or still need to overcome to get to Jesus?
- After Zacchaeus hurried down from the tree and received Jesus joyfully, why wasn't the crowd as happy as Zacchaeus?
- What distractions in your life could you minimize so that the lost people around you can easily find Jesus?

AT HOME DISCUSSION

Describe what was going on in your life when you first started seeking Jesus. What changed in your life?

- Who are the characters in this story, and what do they say and do?
- What does Zacchaeus do after he receives Jesus? How is his life changed?
- Are you living your life in such a way that people say, "Why do you hang out with people like that?" Think about the people around you who are often excluded. How could you intentionally become friends with them?

LIFE-GROUP DISCUSSION

- What do we learn about Jesus and his mission?
- According to Jesus, "salvation" came to Zacchaeus, so what is salvation?
- Jesus' mission statement was simple: he came to seek and save the lost. Have you made that your life's mission statement? Have you made that your group's mission statement? Why or why not?



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PERSONAL CHALLENGE

Because of your relationship with Christ, is there a relationship with someone else that is broken and needs to be mended?

- Do you need to forgive the other person? (Matthew 18:21-35)
- Do you need to make peace with someone? (Matthew 5:9)
- Do you need to ask for forgiveness? (Matthew 5:23-24)

If you answered yes to any of those questions, what are you going to do and when are you going to do it? Pray that God would allow you to follow the example of Jesus and seek for your relationships to be restored (2 Corinthians 5:16-21).

AT HOME CHALLENGE

Discuss what it would look like for your family to live with the intentionality of seeking the lost. Invite an individual, couple, or family not in your life group over to your house to share a meal with your family.

Pray for the food and thank God for sending Jesus to seek and to save us, because we are lost without him (Luke 19:10).

LIFE-GROUP CHALLENGE

Share a meal as a group and invite one individual, couple, or family not already in your group to your group meal.

Pray for the food and thank God for sending Jesus to seek and to save us, because we are lost without him (Luke 19:10).