

SESSION 1 | GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

GET STARTED

We all follow something (influencers, bands, authors, sports teams, TV shows, people, trends, etc...). **What's something that you follow? What's something you follow that you are a little embarrassed to admit? Why are you drawn to follow either of your answers?**

If you could apprentice and learn from a master in any field, what would you choose? Why?

New Groups: Introduce the *Getting To Know You* activity (pg. 130)

TAKE IT IN

Watch Session 1: The Great Commission Is My Mission at mynorthside.com/ctu. **What encouraged or challenged you from the video and daily study guide this week?**

TALK IT OVER

Read Matthew 28:18-20; John 13:34-35; 1 John 2:3-6

The word disciple simply means a learner or follower. A disciple would have been someone who followed their teacher in order to become like them and continue their work. Through these three passages, Jesus begins defining what His followers look like. **Using the passages, what characteristics of a disciple do you see?**

Disciples live connected to Jesus. Obedience is a habit of grace in developing godly character. Our lives change as the Holy Spirit helps us live like Jesus. **Looking back on your faith journey, what were some important steps of obedience for you? Looking ahead, what is one next step you want to take to move forward in your faith?**

Disciples are growing in love. **Looking back on your faith journey, how has a follower of Jesus shown love to you? Looking forward, is there someone(s) specific God is calling you to love? What does that love look like in a real, tangible way?**

Disciples connect others to Jesus. Many times, Matthew 28:18-20 is viewed as the mission for “advanced” disciples. All followers of Jesus have the same mission of making more disciples. **Is there someone specific in your life that you are intentionally helping learn how to follow Jesus? If so, share some of the journey.**

Read Luke 15:1-7

Connecting the unconnected sums up this parable, because Jesus has a heart for the one. **Have you witnessed someone who was far from God experience transformation from following Jesus? Have you witnessed someone who was connected to God experience a new shift in priorities in following Jesus? In either case, share a story.**

The religious elite were complaining about Jesus spending time with those far away from God. Sometimes, we can get so lost in our own efforts to serve God that we find ourselves more unconnected than we realize. **Have you ever caught yourself comparing your spiritual journey to others instead of focusing on Jesus? How can spiritual success or maturity sometimes become a stumbling block?**

We all have people in our lives that we would consider our one's. Maybe they don't know Jesus yet. Or, they do know Jesus, but are not really connected to Him. **How can our group become a place where we can be equipped to reach our one's? What is an area of your relationship with God you would like to be better equipped to reach the one's in your life?**

WHO ARE THE ONE'S IN YOUR LIFE? HOW CAN WE BE PRAYING FOR YOU AND THEM?

LIVE IT OUT

Our mission is to connect the unconnected to Jesus. We help people connect to Jesus and live connected to Jesus. Where do you need to continue growing? Is there a next step of obedience to take? Is there someone God is challenging you to love better? Is there someone you should be intentionally helping to follow Jesus? Prayerfully ponder the answers to these questions. The good news is that we are not meant to do this alone. Invite your group into the journey. Encourage and equip one another in faith so that you can go and make disciples.

Daily Devotions: Take 15-30 minutes each day to dive into the *Connecting The Unconnected* daily devotions. Don't think of it as homework, but time growing alongside your Heavenly Father. Come ready to discuss what you are learning at the next group session.

Memorize: “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” **Matthew 28:19-20**