

Luke *Following Jesus*

2. Becoming a Disciple

Luke 5.1-11

Aim: To consider how people actually become Christians, and what that means for how we might help the faith journeys of those who haven't come to faith in Jesus yet.

Note to Leaders: *The first question is preferable as it's always good to give people the chance to share their story - especially if the group is relatively new. If there are people in your group who aren't Christians, the second might be preferable. Feel free to use the second as well as the first!*

To start with:

- When and how did you become a Christian? (This might be a long activity so encourage people to be brief - perhaps by setting an example yourself! Getting people to draw a timeline/diagram to illustrate this might help them to reflect and communicate succinctly.)
- Which Bible story about someone meeting with God is your favourite? Why?

Looking at the text:

Read Luke 4.38-39 and John 1.35-42

1. What strikes you about Simon Peter's earliest encounters with Jesus?

Now Read Luke 5.1-11

2. From these 3 passages what would you say were the steps in Simon's journey to the point of making a decision to follow Jesus?

3. How does his journey compare to your own stories? What are the similarities and differences?
4. Given your own and biblical examples how far do you think that are there certain experiences or events that must happen in someone's journey to becoming a Christian?

(Note to Leaders: be aware that members of your group might have diverse and strong opinions - encourage them to be gracious!)

5.
 - a. What things do you think commonly stop people from making the decision to follow Jesus?
 - b. As individuals and a church how can we practically help people overcome these obstacles?

Prayer and response:

In twos or threes:

Think of someone close to you who isn't yet a Christian.

- How far along the journey to faith would you say they are?
- How can you help them progress along that journey?
- Pray together for this person.