

**ignite**  
SR HIGH MINISTRY

**the experience**

**24-7**

**Student Small  
Group Book**



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# session 1: following

## **open up**

List some reason why so many people have negative feelings toward Christians. Are their feelings justified?

## **read and discuss**

Read Matt 4:18-20 & Mark 2:13-14. Could becoming a Christian be this simple (NOT EASY but SIMPLE)? Why or why not?

Read about the first Jesus-followers in Acts 2:42-47. Compare those first followers to some the Christians you know. In what ways are they similar and what ways are they different?

# session 1: following

If someone is going to become a follower of Jesus, it might be helpful to know the GUY they're going to follow!

Brainstorm a list of some the things Jesus said and did, the people he hung out with, and the way he live his life.

Ex. Did he have a lot of material possessions? What was his pace of life? Was he stressed out all the time?

In Jesus with Dirty Feet, author Don Everts writes that becoming a follower of Jesus "is never more than Jesus' call, 'Follow Me,' and a response: dropping of familiar nets."

What are some familiar **nets that you are holding on to** that you know Jesus is asking you to drop in order to follow Him?

# session 1: following

## close out

Being a follower of Jesus implies motion. When we're following Jesus, we're always on the move; growing closer to Him, growing in love for one another, serving our neighbours in need, loving the overlooked, dropping familiar nets.

In the space below, write down **ONE WAY** that you'll be following Jesus this week, one way you'll be in motion.

# session 2: love

## **open up**

In your own words, how do you describe love? Is it the hugging and kissing or even sex we hear about in culture or is it something else?

## **read and discuss**

Read Matthew 25:31-46. Have you ever read this passage before? How does it make you feel?

Discuss the story of the man who wants to ask God why there's so much pain and suffering in the world but doesn't because He fears God would ask him the same question.

How does the quote, "You are literally the hands and feet of Jesus alive in the world," tie into this discussion?

# session 2: love

In the interview with Shane he says, "**The Kingdom of Heaven is NOT just what happens when we die, it's a way of life RIGHT NOW.**" If that were true, how would that change the way you live?

Read Matthew 5-7. Discuss what the Kingdom of Heaven looks like, and contrast its appearance with the rules and ways of our world.

# session 2: love

----> what do you want to be when you grow up?

## close out

Write on a piece of paper, "You are literally the hands and feet of Jesus alive in the world," and put it on your mirror, your locker at school, or ... and see how living with that truth changes the way you see the world.

# session 3: justice

## **open up**

What feelings did you have when you heard the stories and statistics of injustice around the world?

## **read and discuss**

Read Luke 4:18-19 & Isaiah 19:20. Discuss how God feels about injustice.

Discuss the reality that God uses us to accomplish His will in the world. How does that make you feel? How does that change the way you view your life?

# session 3: justice

**PRAYER!** Spend some time right now praying for those around the world in bondage, those in forced prostitution, those whose rights are being disregarded, those who are wrongfully imprisoned.

After watching Gary Haugen's interview, answer: Are you willing to say to God

**"I give you all that I have?"**

# session 3: justice

## close out

Talk to your parents and friends **this week** about injustice throughout the world and how we as Jesus-followers are to fight against that injustice.

# session 4: unity

## open up

Share some stereotypes that you have heard or maybe you have said yourself (but be careful not to offend). Then decide as a group if any of them are true or not.

## read and discuss

Read John 17:20-23. Why is unity so important for Jesus-followers?

Discuss the statement, "Sunday at 11a.m. is the most segregated house in America (Canada)." **Is this God's heart for His church?** (Read Isaiah 2:2, 56:6-7; Revelation 7:9-10)

*(95% of whites attend predominately white congregations and 90% of African-Americans attend predominately African-American congregations -- Divided by Faith, Oxford Press, 2000)*

# session 4: unity

Look at where you live, the school you attend, your church and your closest friends...is diversity reflected and unity achieved (economically, racially, etc.)?

Did Ashley's response to the question, "What is it like to grow up African-American in Atlanta," surprise you?

Do you believe that racism or discrimination exists in Canada today? In your town? In your school? In your life?

# session 4: unity

Read Ephesians 2:14-16. Is not contributing to the problem of racism enough to live in unity? What was Jesus' example?

**close out**

**this week** at school make a conscious effort to begin or deepen a friendship with someone from a different ethnic background than your own.

# session 5: wilderness

## open up

Discuss this quote by author Eugene Peterson: *"This happens in the wilderness. You see more, hear more, yes, believe more. A sense of Holiness takes shape; the sacred surfaces. Everybody -- at least everybody who has anything to do with God -- spends time in the Wilderness."* (Leap Over A Wall, p.72)

What is the "wilderness" for a believer? (Give specific examples)

## life map?

On the next page, draw a life map. Starting with your **BIRTH** up through the **PRESENT**, show the peaks and valleys of your life and all the time in between. Be specific and be creative.

Using your life map, discuss some of the peaks and valleys in your life. When have you been in the wilderness?

# session 5: wilderness

\_\_\_\_\_ 's life map...

# session 5: wilderness

## **read and discuss**

Read Genesis 28:16. Have you ever experienced this to be true?

## **close out**

Starting this week, write a journal of each day of your life (or weekly or monthly) of God's activity in your life.

# session 6: mission

## open up

How much influence does Hollywood have on Canadian culture? ...on world culture?

## read and discuss

How much time do you spend each week watching TV? movies? or listening to music?

How much time do you spend thinking about, reading about, or talking to God?

How much time do you spend each week in church or in the company of other Christians?

Tally up your results, then read and discuss **Philippians 4:8**.

# session 6: mission

Read Matthew 5:13-16. How might Christians become salt and light in mainstream pop culture?

Read Matthew 28:16-20 & Acts 1:7-11. Jesus' final words sent his followers on a mission. What was it?

**Do you feel like you're on a mission?**

How would being on a mission change the way you live your life?

# session 6: mission

## close out

How have you been **impacted** by the 24-7 experience?

In what ways have you been **challenged**?

In what ways have you been **changed**?

# the 24-7 experience

my notes...



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