



## Small Group Discussion Notes

Let God: Living the Great Commission

John 4:27-42

Let's Go!

Week 5

February 25th, 2024

### Warm Up

Share about a real or historical person or movement that you observed or learned about and found worthy of your thoughts and/or time. What drew you to want to know more about them or follow them?

### Bonus Warm Up

Share about a historical person or movement that you initially observed and valued that later lost its appeal. What initially drew you to it and what caused you to lose interest?

### Digging Deeper

Read Matthew 4:18-20 and contrast it with last week's passage: Luke 5.1-11.

What similarities do you notice, and what details do you find most important to your overall understanding of Jesus calling the first disciples?

What differences do you notice in the two Scriptures?

If a novice reader was troubled by the difference in accounts, what assurance would you offer them about the message?

What does the word "Disciple" mean to you and/or what does it imply? Would you feel comfortable describing yourself as a disciple? Why or why not?

Jesus prepared the disciples' hearts before calling them to follow Him. What experiences or people in your life do you recall as evidence that God prepared you to follow His call? (How did God prepare you to accept Him as Lord?)

Read and respond to this quote from Henri Nouwen in his book Following Jesus.

"When Jesus says, 'Follow me,'...we enter into a different way of following because it is a call away from "me" and toward God. It is a call to let God enter into the center of our being. It is a willingness to let go of 'me,' of 'I,' and to gradually say, 'you, Lord, are the One.'"

Read John 21.18-22 and respond to the following question.

Peter boasted that he was an unwavering and loyal follower of Jesus, yet when asked if he was a follower, denied knowing Jesus three times. Jesus responded by calling Peter to follow Him. What does that say about how Jesus disciplines us when we falter?

Three ways to nurture our relationship with Christ as we start or continue being His disciples are:

1. Quit Stalling and Follow the Lord
2. Submit your heart to His will
3. Commit your life to Christ

Which of those has been or is easiest or hardest for you? Why?

The title of this sermon series is: "Let's Go! Living the Great Commission" but the title for this week's sermon was: "Let God! Living the Great Commission." What's the difference, and why is it important to "Let God" before we "Let's Go?"

### Next Steps

What can you actively do to "go in" as you contemplate Jesus' charge to "Go out and make disciples of all nations!"

How can we encourage others in their discipleship journey? Think about little things, big things, and everything in between!

## **Final Thoughts**

The Great Commission is about "going out," but today's message was about "going in." Jesus first called the disciples to follow Him and had a relationship with them before giving the Great Commission. We don't have to perfect disciples before going out, but turning in and tuning in to what it means to be a disciple in our own life is a solid starting point as we follow the call to go out and make disciples.