



SERVICES: SEPTEMBER 24TH & 27TH

BACK TO THE BASICS | WEEK 2
WHAT IS A DISCIPLE?
HAYDEN CAMPUS

WELCOME:

Welcome to the second week of Back to the Basics sermon series. Some things don't need a rebrand, they need a reminder. The next six weeks we are talking about what made Real Life Real Life in the first place. No hype, no reinvention, just us getting honest about who we are and why it still works.

OPENING PRAYER:

Start your group with a brief, heartfelt prayer that sets the tone for the discussion. Focus on inviting God's presence, asking Him to guide the conversation, and aligning the group's hearts with His Word. Use simple language and keep it focused on the theme of the session.

PURPOSE OF OUR SMALL GROUPS AT REAL LIFE:

Our small groups exist to help people grow in spiritual maturity through authentic relationships while abiding in Christ. Together, we learn God's Word, live it out, and walk alongside one another as disciples who make disciples—following Jesus, being changed by Him, and living on mission with Him in every sphere of life.

GROUP GUIDELINE:

Why do we have group guidelines- they give boundaries for people to operate within, they help with the flow and pace of the discussions, they help us value one another, and they help people to be more comfortable sharing deep and meaningful things. Implementing these discussion guidelines in your small group will help you create a safe environment. This will allow group members to foster authentic, open and honest relationships where growth can take place.

ICEBREAKER QUESTION:

Who is someone who has taught you how to do something—not just by telling you, but by letting you watch and learn from them? What did they teach you?

MAIN IDEA FROM THE SERMON:

Jesus calls every believer to be His disciple. That means we don't simply receive Jesus for salvation and then continue living life our own way. We follow Jesus, we allow Him to transform us from the inside out, and we commit ourselves to His mission of helping others know and follow Him.

MAIN PASSAGE:

"Jesus called out to them, "Come, follow me, and I will make you fishers of men!"

Matthew 4:19



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HEAD-LEVEL QUESTIONS:

1. What stands out to you about Jesus' invitation in Matthew 4:19? What does Jesus ask us to do, and what does He promise to do?
2. How is being a disciple different from simply believing that Jesus exists or identifying yourself as a Christian?
3. According to Matthew 28:18–20, what did Jesus expect His disciples to do after they became His followers?
4. The sermon defines a disciple as someone who is following Jesus, being changed by Jesus, and on mission with Jesus. How do you see all three of those ideas in Matthew 4:19?

HEART-LEVEL QUESTIONS:

1. Jesus says that following Him means giving up our own way and taking up our cross daily. What makes surrender difficult for you?
2. When you look at your life right now, where do you see evidence that Jesus has been changing you?
3. Look at the fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5. Which fruit do you see God growing in you? Which one would you most like Him to develop in you?
4. Is there an area of your life where you know what Jesus wants, but you are struggling to surrender or obey? What might be keeping you from trusting Him in that area?

HANDS & FEET-LEVEL QUESTIONS:

1. Of the three parts of discipleship—following Jesus, being changed by Jesus, and being on mission with Jesus—where do you most need to take a next step?
2. What is one specific thing you believe Jesus is asking you to do this week?
3. Who is one person in your life who may be far from Jesus? What could it look like for you to intentionally love, serve, pray for, or invite that person this week?
4. How can this group help you take the next step you identified?

RECAP:

Jesus' invitation is not simply to believe in Him but to become His disciple. A disciple follows Jesus by surrendering to His leadership, is changed by Jesus as the Holy Spirit transforms his or her life, and is on mission with Jesus by helping others know and follow Him. Discipleship begins when we respond to Jesus, but it doesn't end there. We continue learning, growing, obeying, and joining Jesus in His mission. As we follow Him, He changes who we are—and then uses our changed lives to help reach others.

CLOSE IN PRAYER

This is an opportunity to share some prayer requests. Highly encourage group members to share something they personally need prayer for. It's easy to talk about others but you are trying to create an environment that is open and transparent so that people are in relationships and there is help to grow spiritually.