

LEADER PAGE SERIES | Ordinary People | WEEK 2 of 3 | Sermon date: February 7, 2021

Discipleship Phrase: God uses ordinary people for extraordinary purposes. **Big Idea for Series:** We have what it takes to accomplish everything God wants us to because of who He is.

Abiding (grow as a disciple yourself)

God sees you as you are, with all your scars and imperfections, and He still desires you. He calls you to follow Him and invites you to be a part of what He is doing. Regardless of your own thoughts of inadequacy or inabilities, He will do the work transforming and equipping you for your purpose (Psalms 139). Do you trust that your Creator knows you? That He is always with you? During your time with God this week examine your commitment to God. Wrestle this week with Jesus' command in Matthew 28:16-20. Get very specific and identify what your "why" is in following Jesus? What do you need to let go of in order to embrace your "why" and to start walking in the fullness of your purpose?

Leading (facilitate your group effectively)

You are the, or one of the, leaders of your Life Group. You would not be reading this if you were not. Are you leading with intentionality? Our prayer is that you are because every group deserves a great group leader. As the leader of your group, one responsibility you "get to" hold is that of knowing (and communicating) what "season" your group is currently in. How would you answer the question, "what season is your group currently in?" Is it one of getting to know one another, one of growth, one of transition, or burn out... where is your group at? Eccl. 31:1 says, "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens." Do business with that this week because it will affect how you facilitate and shepherd your group in this moment right now.

Shepherding (know, feed, lead, and protect the sheep)

We continue to dig into our "ordinary people" series, spending time taking a deeper look into the lives of Jesus' disciples. More specifically, about their commitment. Spend some time reflecting this week on how the "scars" you've acquired throughout your life have helped shape your thoughts. Have they equipped you for hard places or steered you to safer ones? He is familiar with our scars as well as his own. Perhaps these could be what qualifies us to follow Him as close as we do. The disciples were called and chose to surrender everything, committing their lives to Him. Commitment is defined as, "the state or quality of being dedicated to a cause, activity, etc." Ask your group to think about the cause they've committed their lives to. What comes to mind? Is that burdensome or life-giving? Ask them to take some time this week journaling through some of their biggest commitments and how God is using that to grow them. As a leader, don't ask what you're not willing to do, or what you will not follow up on. Reach out during the week to your group members to discuss.

Life Group Leader Announcement (leader specific info)

• Life Group Leader Workshop on Intentional Leadership is happening March 7, 2021! This will be a 2-hour event where we pour into you on what Intentional Leadership looks like. We will meet right after church and lunch will be provided. Space is limited! Click <u>here</u> to register!

<u>Church Announcements</u> (be in the know & share with your group)

• Connections Class February 21st & 28th 1-3 PM! Click here to register!





REMEMBER: "Every group deserves a great leader."

LifeGroups at Southeast

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Welcome/Introductions (creating a relational environment starts here; be friendly & acknowledge everyone)

Open in Prayer (kickoff every group gathering with honoring the Lord)

Ice Breaker, God Moments, or Highs & Lows (choose one that is best for your group this week)

Weekly Vision Checklist (See Flipbook re: announcements, the "why", goal, outreach, guidelines, & branching)

Ask a Hook Question (a thought-provoking question to get the group heading in the right direction) When have you committed to something and got more than you bargained for?

Recap Last Week's Message (ask a *couple* people to share what stood out to them in this week's message)

Scriptures References (Read scriptures directly from the Bible—it carries its own authority) John 1:35-50 (NIV), John 6:1-9, John 12:20-22 (ESV), John 14:8-9 (ESV), John 11:1-16 (ESV), John 20:24-28 (ESV), Luke 5:27-32 (ESV)

Implications (takeaways from the message)

- 1. God isn't looking for special people, just committed people.
- 2. God's love transcends our prejudices, preconceived ideas, and misconceptions.
- 3. Following Jesus is viral; it is spread person to person.
- 4. God is kind when we doubt.

Discussion Questions (going beyond the surface)

- 1. The disciples had to commit to Jesus to follow him. Perhaps you have, too. If so, what does commitment mean to you? If you have not chosen to follow him, what do you think commitment to Jesus means?
- 2. What expectations about life have you had to let go of as a follower of Jesus?
- 3. What expectations are you holding onto and are they keeping you from being fully committed?
- 4. Read Matthew 28: 16-20 out loud. Ask the group to personally commit to reading it every day this week to see how their personal commitment to Jesus shifts.

Prayer Requests (record, share, and follow up throughout the week. Use the LEAD App or CCB if possible.)

Closing Prayer (ask openly for a volunteer, encourage your people to step outside of their comfort zone regularly)

