

The Movement Begins

That You May Believe sermon series week three

Personal Connection (25 minutes)

Icebreaker

When's the last time you "crafted" or built something? How often do you find yourself amazed or surprised at the end result? Did you follow the instructions, or did you change things up based on curiosity? Share your experience with your LIFE Group.

Sharing Christ and Praying for Each Other

When's the last time you shared Christ with someone and how did they respond?

What can your LIFE Group lift up to the Lord on your behalf?

Review Last Sunday's *What Now?*

All of who we are, what we do, and our entire being and identity are found in Jesus Christ. Just as John the Baptist testified that Jesus is the long expected Messiah, we too have opportunities to declare and show that he is our Savior. Jesus Christ is our personal savior, redeeming our souls for eternity, but also equipping us to live boldly for him, *here and now*.

Digging Deeper (30 minutes)

This Week's Key Concept:

When we are willing to follow Jesus Christ, transformation is the natural outcome.

Read John 1:35-51

Q1. In verse 39, Jesus responds to the two disciples, "Come and you will see," when they ask him where he is staying, and they immediately follow. When you started following Christ, did you start out of curiosity or did you start out of reverence?

Q2. In verses 45 and 46, Nathanael reacts very negatively when Philip announces that they have found "Jesus of Nazareth," the one of whom Moses and the prophets had spoken. Nathanael accepts the invitation to "come and see," and completely changes his mind after meeting Jesus. What can we learn about ourselves by considering both of Nathanael's responses — before and after he met Jesus?

Q3. How does spending time with Jesus alone differ from spending time with Jesus while in the company of other believers? How do the two compliment your relationship with Christ, and why is each one a time that is to be treasured?

Q4. What does being a disciple of Jesus Christ look like? What can you learn from discipleship?

Q5. Why does Jesus have so many descriptive names? (*Lamb of God, Rabbi, Teacher, Messiah, Son of God, King of Israel, etc.*) How do these different descriptive names for Christ help you in different ways? (*For example: when you are grieving, you may cry out to Jesus as your Comforter; or, when you are studying the Bible, you may ask Jesus to be your Teacher, to show you what the scripture means.*)

Impact Questions

Q1. Who do you say “Christ is...” when you are with friends, family, co-workers, classmates, children, and unbelievers? Does your witness (living in Christ) produce curiosity in others? In your own words, share who Christ is to the group.

Q2. Do you allow Jesus to be your primary teacher and seek the Word to teach you in *all* things?

Q3. As we walk with Christ, our experiences and heart knowledge of him exponentially grow. Please reflect on a personal example in your life that moved you from head-knowledge about Christ, to a transformational, heart-changing encounter with our Lord — one that made you want to remain in him. Please take time to reflect on this before sharing.

Q4. Have you ever experienced a sense of awe towards anything? If so, have you experienced this same sense in regards to Jesus Christ? Please share your experience with your LIFE Group, including what led you to that experience.

Q5. Relationships take time and effort! Be honest: Are you spending consistent time alone with Jesus now, getting to know him through his word, the Bible, so that he might dwell in your heart through faith?

What now? (15 minutes)

So often, the Lord responds to our questions and prayers with a loving but firm command for us to follow him. Sometimes it can feel like our path is uncertain and that God’s plan for our life is unclear. Yet we can confidently follow Jesus because he is worthy of our trust as our savior and creator, who knew us comprehensively before we ever knew him. If we have trouble seeing the way we should go, we should let Jesus be our vision, our eyes.

Pray that Jesus would be your eyes: eyes that would see *every* person worthy of his love; eyes that would love and follow the Father, and trust him no matter the cost; and eyes that are on a mission to bring people to the Cross!

Closing Prayer (15 minutes)

Pray for the Lord’s will in everything that he has placed in motion, and that we would continue to glorify the Lord as we seek to fulfill Northwest’s Mission and Vision.* Please pray for the Emerson Elementary students and their families — that the Reading for Success program would not only impact the children in their scholastic accomplishments, but that it would draw the students and their families into a relationship with Jesus Christ. Pray for all types of relationships inside and outside of the church: marriage, family, friendship, ministry partners, discipleship and mentorship, etc. Pray that the Lord would continue to strengthen our witness and relationships with each other.

Sermon Notes:

** Mission Statement: To help more and more people become passionate worshippers and gifted servants of Jesus Christ.*

Vision Statement: Northwest will strive to develop leaders, equip families, and foster relationships to thrive in Jesus Christ.