

Instructions

Group leaders, take some time before your gathering to look over these questions. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you and pick 3-5 questions to discuss, which pertain to your group's unique needs and style.

For the video related questions, look up the video in RightNow Media. You can do this on a phone, tablet, computer, or SmartTV device. You can easily find the video by clicking on the "Revolution Church" channel within the app. If you or a group member needs access to RightNow Media, please email info@revolutionky.org.

Series Synopsis

We have committed ourselves to this family at Revolution Church and to walk the path of discipleship together through our prayers, presence, gifts, and service. We know that we need each other to live this life within a faith community. But what's next? What if God desires, not only for us to *be* his disciples, but to also *make* disciples? What does that mean? And what could being a "witness" to Jesus Christ look like in our world today?

Join us this Advent as we prepare to celebrate the good news of the birth of Jesus Christ once again and discover that sometimes the best way to tell the story of Christmas is through our own stories of redemption.

Message Synopsis

After Andrew and Philip met Jesus, they immediately went to their brother Simon and friend Nathanael and said, we have found the Messiah! And, come and see! After experiencing eternal life in Jesus Christ for themselves, they shared their stories with someone else. But they didn't begin by telling their stories to total strangers; they began with people who they knew. Had Andrew and Philip not been willing to share their stories, Simon (Peter) and Nathanael may never have decided to follow Jesus... Sometimes being a witness can be as easy as sharing about your experience of God's love in Jesus, and then offering the invitation, "Come and see."

Key Scriptures

John 1:35-51

Questions Related to This Week's Message

1. What was something that stood out to you or spoke to you about the testimony shared on Sunday morning? Did you connect with any part of their story?
2. Who has been like Andrew and Philip in your life?
3. How did they communicate their faith? What did they say? What did they do? How did it make you feel?
4. When has someone offered an invitation to you or shared their faith with you less effectively? What about this person's witness did not connect? What made it different?

Video and Discussion Questions from RightNow Media

Video: “#EveryDayMatters – Session 5: Invite” by Marguerite Gibson (12 min)

(located in the “Renovation Group Bible Studies” channel)

<https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Content/Series/259671?episode=5>

1. Take a moment to discuss the video freely. What stuck out to you? What bothered you? What questions did this raise for you? Even consider where and why your mind wandered as you watched, as it might reveal something of your heart or something of significance in the message.
2. Marguerite shared that most people visit a church for the first time because they are invited. Why did you first go to a church (as an adult, of your own initiative)? Why did you come to Revolution? If someone invited you, what were your thoughts and feelings when you received the invitation? Were you hesitant? Eager? Indifferent?
3. Have you ever invited someone to church or to a Christian event? How did people respond to you and what have been the long-term effects on your relationship? How did you feel when you invited them? Do you view this as a positive experience (why or why not)?
4. Rank the following, with 1 being the least comfortable and 5 being the most comfortable. How comfortable are you inviting someone to...
 - Church 1 2 3 4 5
 - Lunch or coffee 1 2 3 4 5
 - A party or social event 1 2 3 4 5
 - Your small group 1 2 3 4 5
5. Are there any significant differences in your answers? Why or why not?
6. Danielle shared about honesty and vulnerability as keys to developing trust before inviting someone deeper. Are there people in your life who you are struggling to be honest and vulnerable with? Why?
7. God puts people in our paths, often because we have something to share (and something to receive) through relationship. Who keeps showing up in your life that God may be calling you to invite into something deeper? What hesitations do you have about this? What steps can you take to reach out to them this week?
8. The best way to begin an invitation is by praying for someone. It invites you to invest your heart in someone before you ask anything of them in return. Take a moment to pray as a group for the people you talked about in the last question. Then commit to praying for the people you mentioned every day this week.

Family-Related Questions:

1. While the pandemic makes this far more difficult right now, plant a seed in your kids this week. Ask them who they would like to invite to church with them when we’re finally able to be in person (or if they’re older, ask them who they’d like to invite to our youth group). Consider how you can begin reaching out and building relationships with these families now, so it will be easier to invite them when the time comes.
2. Why do you think it might be easier for children to invite friends to church than it is for adults (or why not, if you think the reverse is true)? When Jesus tells us to become like little children in the Kingdom, do you think there is something he wants us to learn from your answers?