



Following Jesus Fishing for people

Getting Started

INTRODUCTION

Follow me, and I will teach you how to fish for people.

Jesus (Mark 1:17)

In many countries, if you take out a coin you will find that on one side is the head of an existing or former ruler. Jesus is our Ruler, he is our King. In Mark 1:17 he commands his first disciples to follow him. A follower is someone who has surrendered to him as their king.

There are two sides to every coin. On one side of the coin Jesus is our King, we obey him. On the other side of the coin he promises in Mark 1:17 to teach us to fish for people. Fishing for people is the job of every disciple. You can't split a coin. You can't separate following Jesus from fishing for people.

These studies are for people who want to follow Jesus and fish for people.

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7 Commands

1. REPENT AND BELIEVE

After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!"

Mark 1:14-15

1 Look back

- How are you doing?
- Is there something you can thank God for?
- Were you able to share your new faith in Jesus with anyone?
- Practice retelling God's story (page 14)
- Pray for people you know who are not following Jesus.
- Vision cast: When Jesus called his first disciples he commanded them to follow him and he promised to teach them to fish for people (Matt 4:19). Jesus still calls us to follow him and promises to equip us to fish for new disciples.

2. Look up

- Read the story of Zacchaeus: Luke 19:1-10
- Retell the passage in your own words.
- What does the passage teach us about God or Jesus?
- What does it teach us about the people in the story?
- What do we learn about what it means to repent and believe?
- Is there a command to obey or an example to follow?

Read Acts 2:37-38. In v38 what does Peter challenge his audience to do?
What does he promise God will do?

What do these verses teach us about the gift of the Holy Spirit? John 14:15-17, 26.

3. Look forward

- Practice telling the story in your own words.
- What will you do this week to obey what you have learned?
- Who will you share the story with this week?
- Pray for each other.

Assignment

Use the worksheet Sharing Your Story (p12) below to write out your story, and come prepared to share it next time in two minutes.

2. BE BAPTIZED

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus (Matthew 28:19)

1. Look back

- How are you doing?
- Is there something you can thank God for?
- Pray.
- Have you shared Jesus' story with anyone?
- Pray for people you know who are not following Jesus.
- Practice telling your story in two minutes.
- Vision cast: When Zacchaeus repented and believed, he immediately became a witness to his whole community. Jesus can use each one of us to bring salvation to the people around us.

2. Look up

- Read the story: Philip and the Ethiopian official Acts 8:26-40
- Retell the passage in your own words.
- What does the passage teach us about God or Jesus?
- What does the story teach us about people?
- What does the story teach us about Jesus' command to be baptised?
- Is there a command to obey or an example to follow?

What do these verses add to our understanding of Jesus command to be baptized?

- Matthew 3:13-16
- Romans 6:3-4

3. Look forward

- Practice telling the story in your own words.
- What will you do this week to obey what you have learned?
- How will you obey Jesus' command to be baptized.
- Who will you share the story with this week?
- Pray for each other.

Assignment: Complete the exercise Mapping Your World (p13).

3. PRAY

*This, then, is how you should pray. . .
Jesus (Matthew 6:9)*

1. Look back

- How are you doing?
- Is there something you can thank God for?
- Pray.
- Have you shared your story or Jesus' story with anyone?
- Pray for people you know who are not following Jesus.
- Share your Relational Map (p13) and pray for your list of five names.
- Vision cast: Matthew 28:18-20. Jesus has commissioned all of us to make disciples, baptizing them and teaching them to obey him. He promises us his authority, and his presence wherever we go.

2. Look up

- Read the story: Jesus teaching his disciples to pray: Matthew 6:5-15
- Retell the passage in your own words.
- What does the passage teach us about God or Jesus?
- What does the story teach us about people?
- Is there a command to obey or an example to follow?

Jesus taught his disciples to pray

- Write out Matthew 6:5-15 in your own words.

- Use Jesus' teaching on prayer as a guide for praying together. Don't just recite the words, instead pray around each theme.

3. Look forward

- What will you do this week to obey what you have learned?
- Who will you share the story with this week?
- Who could you teach to pray like Jesus taught his disciples to pray?
- Pray for each other.

Assignment: Share God's Story (p14) with someone you know.

4. MAKE DISCIPLES

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus (Matthew 28:19)

1. Look back

- How are you doing?
- Is there something you can thank God for? Pray.
- Have you shared your story or Jesus' story with anyone?
- How did you obey Jesus' command to be generous?
- Pray for people you know who are not following Jesus.
- Vision cast: Create and vision cast of your own and share it.

2. Look up

- Read the story: The Samaritan Woman from John 4:4-42.
- Retell the passage in your own words.
- What does the passage teach us about God or Jesus?
- What does the passage teach us about people?
- What does the passage teach us about Jesus' command to make disciples?
- Is there a command to obey or an example to follow?

3. Look forward

- Retell the story of the Samaritan woman in your own words.
- This week with whom will you share your story and God's story?
- Pray for each other.

Assignment: Read over the Three Thirds Discipleship (pp17-18). Ask God to give you someone you could start discipling.

5. LOVE

'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'

Jesus (Matthew 22:37-39)

1. Look back

- How are you doing?
- Is there something you can thank God for?
- Pray.
- Have you shared your story or Jesus' story with anyone?
- Pray for people you know who are not following Jesus.
- Practice sharing your story or Jesus' story.
- Vision cast: Matthew tells us that Jesus visited every town and village in Galilee. There were about 175 towns and villages. Jesus didn't wait for people to come to him. He was constantly on the move looking for people God had prepared.

2. Look up

- Read the story: Good Samaritan from Luke 10:25-37.
- Practice telling the story in your own words.
- What does the passage teach us about God or Jesus?
- What does the passage teach us about people?
- Is there a command to obey or an example to follow?

What do these verses teach us about Jesus' command to love?

- Matthew 22:37-40
- John 13:34-35

3. Look forward

- What will you do this week to obey what you have learned?
- Pray for each other.

Assignment: Ask God how you can show his love this week to one of the five people you are praying for.

6. CELEBRATE LORD'S SUPPER

And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you."

Luke 22:19-20

1. Look back

- How are you doing?
- Is there something you can thank God for? Pray.
- Have you shared your story or Jesus' story with anyone? Did you invite someone to do one of the Seven Stories of Hope?
- Pray for people you know who are not following Jesus.
- Practice retelling Jesus story.

2. Look up

- Read the passage: 1 Corinthians 11:23-29
- Write out the passage in your own words.
- What does the passage teach us about God or Jesus?
- What does the passage teach us people?
- What does the passage teach us about Jesus' command to celebrate the Lord's Supper?
- Is there a command to obey or an example to follow?
- Vision cast: Practice sharing one of the previous ones.

Questions

- Why do we celebrate the Lord's Supper?
- Who should celebrate the Lord's Supper?
- How should we prepare ourselves for the Lord's Supper?

3. Look forward

- Practice telling the story in your own words.
- What will you do this week to obey what you have learned?
- Who will you share the story with this week?
- Pray for each other.

Assignment: Plan at time to celebrate the Lord's Supper with some other believers.

7. GIVE

Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."

Jesus (Luke 6:38)

1. Look back

- How are you doing?
- Is there something you can thank God for?
- Pray.
- Have you shared your story or Jesus' story with anyone? Did you teach anyone how to pray?
- Pray for people you know who are not following Jesus.
- Vision cast: Practice sharing a previous vision cast.

2. Look up

- Read the passage: The Widow Gives from Mark 12:41-44.
- Retell the passage in your own words.
- What does the passage teach us about God or Jesus?
- What does the passage teach us about people?
- What does the story teach us about Jesus' command to give generously?
- Is there a command to obey or an example to follow?

What do these verses teach about generosity?

- 2 Corinthians 8:9
- 2 Corinthians 9:6-8

3. Look forward

- Practice telling the story in your own words.
- How you will obey Jesus' command to be generous?
- Who will you share the story with this week?
- Pray for each other.

Assignment: Complete Person of Peace Search (p15) study. Spend some time looking for a "person of peace."

7 Skills

1. SHARING YOUR STORY

"Return home and tell how much God has done for you." So the man went away and told all over town how much Jesus had done for him.

Jesus (Luke 8:39)

Sharing your story can help family and friends, and people you meet understand how they too can follow Jesus.

Write down a few points under each heading.

1. Your life before you met Jesus.

2. How you met Jesus.

3. How your life has changed.

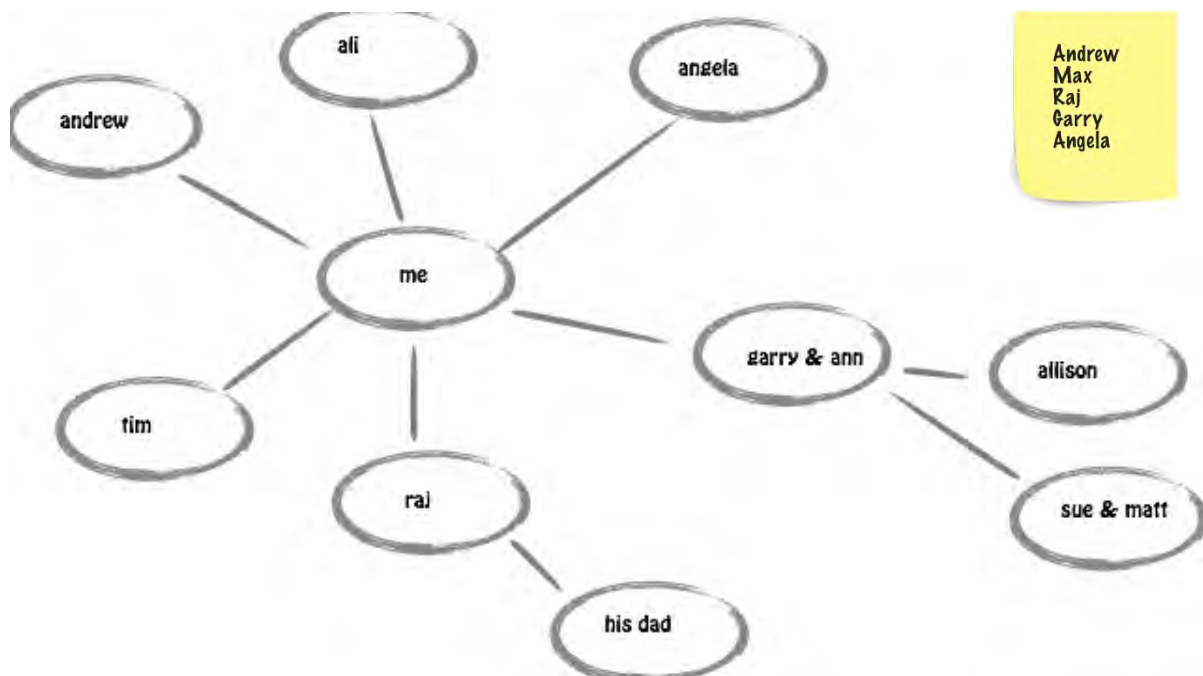
Assignment

- Practice telling your story in two minutes with a partner.
- Who can you share your story with this week?

2. MAPPING YOUR WORLD

A good place to begin sharing your story and God's story is with the people you know — your circle of relationships including family, friends, coworkers, and neighbours.

1. Write your name in the centre of a piece of paper and draw a circle around it.
2. Add the names of people you know and love who are far from God and draw a circle around their names and a connecting line to you for each one.
3. Add the names of people they are related to who are also far from God.
4. List five people you can pray for every day for a total of at least five minutes. Place that list where you will see it every day — on a bathroom mirror, or the dashboard of your car, or on the refrigerator.
5. Pray daily for them and seek opportunities to share with them.



See: www.movements.net/48hours

Who will you share your story with this week?

3. SHARING GOD'S STORY

You need a simple way of communicating the gospel and asking for a response.

1. Choose a bridge:

ie. "Do you feel near or far from God? Could I share with you how you could be near to God?"

2. Draw and explain the 3 Circles.

See: www.movements.net/3circles

3. Ask

- Which circle best describes your life right now? Listen, then ask,
- Where would you like to be?
- Is there anything stopping you responding to Jesus now?

4. Listen for three possible responses:

a. Red light — I'm not interested

- Smile and move on.

b. Yellow light — I'm not ready

- Offer to meet again and discuss some stories about Jesus using the 7 Stories of Hope, p16.

c. Green light — I'm ready

- Check for understanding. Ask them to tell you in their own words what they understood of the 3 Circles.
- Ask them to put what they have understood into a prayer to God, beginning with "Dear God...."
- Make a time to meet again within 1-2 days if possible and begin the 7 Commands.
- Help them draw a simple People Map and ask who they could share their story with before you meet up.

4. PERSON OF PEACE SEARCH

Jesus was always on the move. He was often meeting new people and visiting new places.

In Luke 10:1-11 Jesus explained to his disciples how to connect with lost people. Jesus sent his disciples to seek out those insiders whom the Spirit had prepared to receive the message. He called them persons of peace.

The person of peace becomes a doorway for the gospel to enter and spread throughout a community. They are

1. receptive to the messenger
2. receptive to the gospel
3. well connected relationally

Read Luke 10:1-11 and fill in the table below.

Messenger does

Person of Peace does



This week, find a partner and set aside some time to go out among people praying and looking for a person of peace.

5. DISCOVERY BIBLE STUDY

Discovery Bible Study is a simple, yet powerful, way to make disciples.

1. Look back

- How are you doing?
- Is there something you are thankful for?
- What did you learn last time?
- How did you apply the learning?
- Did you share the story with anyone?

2. Look up

- Read the story.
- Retell the passage in your own words.
- What does the passage teach us about God or Jesus?
- What does it teach us about people?
- Is there a command to obey or an example to follow?

3. Look forward

- What will you do this week to obey what you have learned?
- Who will you share the story with this week?
- How can we pray for each other?

SEVEN STORIES OF HOPE

If you have shared the 3 Circles with someone and they are not ready to receive Christ (yellow light), offer to meet with them to discuss some stories about Jesus from the Bible. Choose a story from the list below and do a Discovery Bible Study with them.

1. The woman who wept at Jesus' feet (Luke 7:36-50).
2. Accepted by God (Luke 18:9-17).
3. A hole in the roof (Luke 5:17-26).
4. Two lost sons (Luke 15:11-32).
5. Death and forgiveness (Mark 15-16-39).
6. New life, new purpose (Matthew 28:1-20).
7. Which soil are you? (Mark 4:1-20).

At any time you can check back in and see if they are ready to follow Jesus using the 3 Circles (p14).

6. THREE THIRDS DISCIPLESHIP

A disciple is someone who is following Jesus and learning how to fish for people. Here is a simple way of gathering with other disciples to learn how to follow and fish in three parts.

First Third: Look back

1. Care

- Share any highlights or lowlights since you last met.
- Pray for any needs in the group.

2. Worship

- Find a simple, relevant way to worship God.
- For example: read a passage of the Bible and respond to God in prayer; or sing songs of worship.

3. Accountability

Follow

- How did you obey the lesson from last time?

Fish

- Did you pray with anyone who was in need?
- Who did you share your story and/or Jesus' story?
- Did you find a person of peace?

4. Casting vision for reaching lost people and making disciples.

- Share an encouraging challenge to reach people far from God.
- Pray for people you know who are not following Jesus.

Second Third: Look up

5. New lesson

Read the Bible story or passage.

- Without looking at the text, retell the passage in your own words.
- What does the passage teach us about God?
- What does it teach us about people?
- Is there a command to obey or an example to follow?

Final Third: Look forward

6. Practice

- Practice or retell the new lesson you have learned.

7. Set goals and pray

- What do you need to do this week to obey what you've learned?
- Who could you share this passage with?
- Pray.

The Three Thirds

Look back	Look up	Look forward
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mutual care: How are you doing? 2. Worship: Praising God in a simple, relevant way. 3. Accountability* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Follow:</i> How did you obey the lesson from last time? • <i>Fish:</i> Did you pray with anyone who was in need? • Did you share your story and/or Jesus' story? • Did you find a person of peace? 4. Casting vision* for reaching lost people and making disciples. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. New lesson: Enough Biblical content to obey and pass it on. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short term discipleship: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7 Commands • 7 Skills • Church formation • Life long discipleship <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three Thirds Discipleship • Discovery Bible Study 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Practice* the lesson until everyone is confident and competent to apply the learning. eg. Retell your story, Jesus' story, or this week's story. 7. Set goals and pray:* Goals for personal growth, sharing the gospel, and training others.

If time is short, make it a priority to cover the sections with an asterisk*
 See [T4T: A Discipleship ReRevolution](#) by Steve Smith and Ying Kai.

Read over the outline above, then see how much of it you can write out from memory.

7. BECOMING CHURCH

*I will build my church.
Jesus (Matthew 16:18)*

1. Look back

- How are you doing?
- Is there something you can thank God for? Pray.
- Have you shared your story or Jesus' story with anyone?
- Pray for people you know who are not following Jesus.
- Vision cast: Jesus chose some unlikely people become the first messengers to their community — an immoral woman (John 4:28-30), a demoniac (Mark 5:18-20) a corrupt official (Luke 19:1-10). He wants to use each of us to take the gospel to those who haven't heard.

2. Look up

- Read the story: Acts 2:36-47
- Retell the passage in your own words.
- What does the passage teach us about God or Jesus?
- What does it teach us about the people in the story?
- Is there a command to obey or an example to follow?

In the table below, list the activities of the first church. In the second column list what you are currently doing when you gather with other disciples.

Is there anything we need to add or change to move from being a discipleship group to become a church?

What the first church did

What we do



3. Look forward

- When you gather as disciples how can you follow the example of the first church in Acts?
- Plan your next gathering to reflect the characteristics of the church in Acts 2. Use the Three Thirds outline as a guide.
- Pray for each other

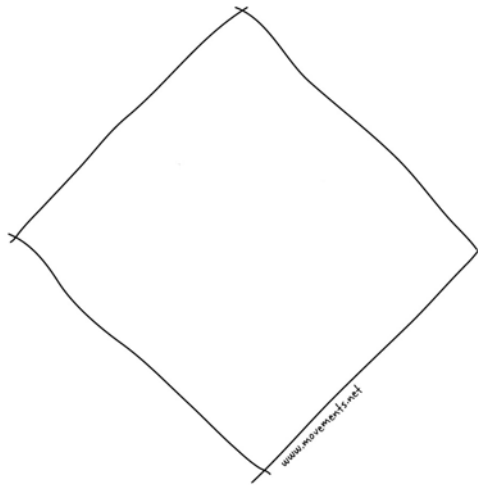
Next

DISCOVERY BIBLE STUDY PLAN: MARK

Use the Discovery Bible Study method to work through the Gospel of Mark. When you have finished Mark, continue to work through the Bible using the Discovery Bible Study method.

1. Mark 1: 1-8
2. Mark 1:9-15
3. Mark 1:16-20
4. Mark 1: 21-28
5. Mark 1: 29-34
6. Mark 1: 35-45
7. Mark 2: 1-12
8. Mark 2: 13-17
9. Mark 2: 18-28
10. Mark 3: 1-12
11. Mark 3: 13-19
12. Mark 3: 20-30
13. Mark 3: 31-35
14. Mark 4: 1-20
15. Mark 4:21-25
16. Mark 4:26-29
17. Mark 4: 30-34
18. Mark 4: 35-41
19. Mark 5: 1-20
20. Mark 5: 21-24; 35-43
21. Mark 5: 25-34
22. Mark 6: 1-6
23. Mark 6:7-13
24. Mark 6: 14-29
25. Mark 6: 30-32
26. Mark 6: 33-44
27. Mark 6: 45-52
28. Mark 6: 53-56
29. Mark 7: 1-13
30. Mark 7:14-23
31. Mark 7: 24-30
32. Mark 7: 31-37
33. Mark 8: 1-10
34. Mark 8: 11-21
35. Mark 8:22-26
36. Mark 8: 27-38; 9:30-32
37. Mark 9: 1-8
38. Mark 9: 9-13
39. Mark 9:14-29
40. Mark 9: 33-37
41. Mark 9: 38-50
42. Mark 10:1-12
43. Mark 10: 13-16
44. Mark 10: 17-31
45. Mark 10: 32-34
46. Mark 10: 35-45
47. Mark 10: 46-52
48. Mark 11:1-11
49. Mark 11: 12-18
50. Mark 11: 19-26
51. Mark 11:27-33
52. Mark 12:1-12
53. Mark 12:13-17
54. Mark 12:18-27
55. Mark 12: 28-34
56. Mark 12: 35-40
57. Mark 12: 41-44
58. Mark 13:1-8
59. Mark 13:9-13
60. Mark 13: 14-27
61. Mark 13: 28-37
62. Mark 14:1-10
63. Mark 14:11-21
64. Mark 14:22-26
65. Mark 14:27-31
66. Mark 14:32-42
67. Mark 14:43-52
68. Mark 14:53-65
69. Mark 14:66-72
70. Mark 15:1-15
71. Mark 15:16-47
72. Mark 16: 1-8
73. Mark 16: 9-13
74. Mark 16:14-20

WHAT JESUS STARTED



There are six elements that characterize the movement that Jesus founded and still leads today.

1. **Jesus saw the need.** He was moved with compassion. He looked out over Israel and saw sheep, lost without a shepherd. He prepared his disciples to take the gospel to the whole world.
2. **Jesus connected with people.** Jesus spent his time ministering to people—looking for the “sick” not the “healthy,” “sinners” not the “righteous”. He sought out people who knew they needed God’s mercy.
3. **Jesus shared the gospel.** Jesus proclaimed the good news of salvation in words and deeds. In him, God’s rule had become a present reality. He preached, he taught, he rebuked, and he invited everyone he met to repent and believe. He gave his life as a ransom for many.
4. **Jesus trained disciples.** Jesus led people to put their trust in him and to learn to obey his commands. He modeled and taught them a new way of life.
5. **Jesus gathered communities.** As the risen Lord, Jesus formed his disciples into churches characterized by faith in him, love for one another, and witness in word and deed.
6. **Jesus multiplied workers.** Jesus equipped his followers to make disciples of all nations. He sent the Holy Spirit upon them so that they would continue his ministry in his power.

See [What Jesus Started](#) by Steve Addison.

From memory, redraw and explain the Movements diagram.

Download this booklet at:

www.movements.net/followingandfishing