

PHASE 1 - Follow Me

SESSION 1 - Introduction



LEADER'S
STUDIES

WELCOME & PRAYER - We will be quite simple and low key at this introductory session

WORSHIP - A fairly short time with thoughts and songs on God's Faithfulness

INTRODUCTION - Over the next months: We want to be growing in our knowledge of the Lord and of His will for us

ICE BREAKER - GETTING TO KNOW EACH OTHER

Share what you do and how you became a Christian - briefly
(Half the group this time? Give a personal example)

SIMPLE QUESTIONNAIRE FORM RE THEIR CURRENT TIMES WITH THE LORD (Give 5 mins. to fill out & return) - you'll find this in the 'General' folder

QUESTIONS - What do you hope/expect to get out of this course?
Does anything scare you about it?
(Make quick analysis of questionnaire to share results)

'EXPECTATIONS' - Talk through these. Give them out with the 'Appointments' for this session (there is a lot to hand out this week, ie the intro pages as well as the 'Appointments')

STUDY - "FOLLOW ME"

(**POWERPOINT** - Aims and purposes of the course)

NEXT SESSION - "COME AND SEE": The Disciple's Call

PRAYER

'APPOINTMENTS' - Give out (weekly, not all at once!) and remind them to bring them back each week. Encourage them to get into the habit of always using a notebook (A5) as a journal of their times with Jesus and keep it with their 'Appointments'. It will encourage us all to see what we've found.

First carefully talk through 'Notes on Appointments'.

It is vital that group members understand the importance of these. Explain that they are not just 'homework' or 'assignments'. They are their special daily 'Appointments' with the Lord Jesus.



PHASE 1 - Follow Me

SESSION 1 - Introduction

(We have a very simple Bible study this session)

LEADER'S NOTES:

*This session requires the use of the **POWERPOINT** presentations. **P/P** signifies when to 'click' for the start of a slide or the next point on the slide.*

STUDY - "FOLLOW ME"

Read: Mark 1:16-20

v17 "Come, follow Me and I will make you fishers of men." (NIV 1984)

These words of Jesus are an overview of the whole course!

POWERPOINT - Amplify the aims and purposes of the course.

P/P Discipleship with a Difference

P/P Aims and Purposes of the course

P/P Phase 1 - "Come, follow Me!"

P/P Learning to hear His voice every day

P/P Learning to trust Jesus

P/P Learning to follow Jesus

P/P Learning to let Jesus lead and control your life

P/P Phase 2 - "I will make you"

P/P Letting Jesus make us what He wants us to be

P/P Phase 3 - "Fishers of men"

P/P Letting Jesus make us a blessing to others

P/P Phase 4 - Perseverance

P/P The call to go on going on!

P/P Trusting Jesus with life's ups and downs

Q. What kind of people did Jesus call? **Discuss**

A. Ordinary people!

Q. What did He ask of them? **Discuss**

Q. What was their response? **Discuss**

Q. What did it entail? **Discuss**

Amplify - Putting Him first!

Leaving - Even good things

- Coming on this course will mean **giving it priority**.
- There are daily appointments to meet with Jesus.
- Priority to these will bring blessing.

Read: Luke 5:1-11 (read around)

Luke 5:1 - Picture the scene

Crowds listening - some were called to be His Disciples.

Luke 5:2 - What were the fishermen doing?

(Washing nets - they'd been out fishing - unsuccessfully!)

Luke 5:3 - What a scene! Jesus went out from the shore in a boat to speak to the people. He needed space to speak to them.

Give God space! Let Him speak.

Stand back and listen!

Luke 5:4-7

Q. What was Jesus doing here? Preaching?

Q. What also was He doing?

A. Helping practically

v4 Jesus told Simon *"Put out into the deep water."*

Q. Does that say anything to me?

Let's not paddle in a shallow Christian faith, but be prepared to deepen your faith through relationship with Jesus.

NB: Simon was already a friend of Jesus. (Matt. 4:18)

He knew something about Him.

He had already met Him when he and Andrew were with John the Baptist. (John 1:37-42)

Q. Did they do as Jesus said?

v5 - *The need to trust.* "*Because you say so, I will.*"

The need to believe - in spite of past failures.

(Jesus **knew** that they'd failed to catch anything the night before)

Q. What does this say to you and me? **v6-7**

(Jesus wants to bless us - abundantly)

Q. Again, who does Jesus call? **v8**

Holy people? Saints? or the you's and me's?

FINALLY

Q. What does Jesus say? **v10**

A. Don't be afraid - follow Me and I will make you what I want you to be

v11 THE DISCIPLE'S CALL - to follow!

NEXT SESSION - More on the call: "Come and see" - that's all Jesus asked them at first - "Come, learn more of Me and I will make you..."

Jesus calls to Discipleship:

those who are **willing, wanting, teachable and prepared to obey!**

NOTE TO LEADER: Refer to intro page and give out 'Appointments'