



Jesus Leads: Empower | March 18, 2020

Discussion Guide

The Scoop

We all have only so much time in a day. If you really want to maximize your effort, the best way is to share the load.

Key Verses

Matthew 4:19

Jesus called out to them, "Come, follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people!"

Discussion

We often think leadership is all about having all the answers and being better than anybody we lead. Teachers, coaches, managers, pastors, and CEOs alike don't have ALL the answers so we shouldn't act like we do. Leadership is a dance...essentially a square dance. There is instruction, but a variety of people have to apply instruction. Leaders apply need to both observe, listen, learn, and teach. If we teach without observing, listening and learning, we may be leading a dance to the wrong song.

1. Can you think of a leader who listened, observed, and learned regularly?
2. Can you also think of an example of a leader who trained and equipped others to lead?

One powerful lesson we learn from Jesus is empowerment. From the moment he comes on the scene, he gathers a group of people he invests in and then sends them out to accomplish more than he could ever accomplish on his own. He says in Matthew 4:19, "Come follow me" and "I will show you." Leaders don't tell, they show so that their vision grows exponentially.

3. In what ways are you working to follow Jesus and emulate his leadership? More specifically, how are you gathering and/or empowering others?
4. What might "showing" others look like for you in your faith journey?

The interesting thing about teaching and showing is that doing so we also learn. Instead of "arriving," we continue to do the dance of teaching and learning. When we teach and empower, we build in natural accountability for how we live. Empowering others anchors leadership principles in our moral fiber. The more we teach, empower, and discuss principles with others, the more likely we are to live accordingly. Teaching and learning go hand in hand. If we empower others, the work gets easier and our message becomes more contagious.

5. Can you think of any examples of things you have learned from someone empowering you? What about things you have taught others that have stuck as a result?
6. What are some things you know you need to change in your life if you were to have followers? What 1 or 2 things would you not want someone to follow?

What's Next?

Empowerment has a number of components. The concept forces us to think through how our lives impact others, but it also forces us to think through whether or not our life is having the right impact. As we focus on leading others, be sure to keep a healthy balance between teaching and learning. Empowerment is reciprocal. This week in your faith journey, look for ways you can share your faith, help others lives be more abundant, but also examine yourself and be aware of the lessons you are learning.

You can find a template of our 5-minute faith journal at faithinfive.com to further engage your goals and connect them with your faith.