July 1, 2018

Reading Plan

Day 1-

BIG IDEA: A Disciple of Jesus has Very Distinct Qualities

READ: **Luke 5:1-11**

REFLECT: One of the qualities of a disciple is a bias or strong inclination toward action. Peter was exhausted from a long night of fishing and frustrated by his lack of success. At the water's edge, Jesus had attracted a large crowd and told Peter to put his boat a short distance from shore so He could address the people. <u>Despite fatigue and frustration Peter responded with action</u>.

• Can you recall situation that God called upon you at a less than opportune time? How did you respond?

When Jesus asked Peter to "put out to deep waters and let down your nets for a catch", Peter struggled. As an "expert" fisherman, he knew that it was the wrong time of day to fish deep waters and their chance for success was nil. What he didn't know was God was setting the stage for a miracle and a calling.

 Are you prepared to follow God's directions even if they seem to not make sense in the moment?

PRACTICE: What does becoming a "fisher of men" look like for you?

TAKE IT FURTHER!

LEARN: <u>"Proclaim the Gospel"</u> is a short, 3-part training course from Right Now Media that will encourage you to share your faith. (If you do not yet have a RNM account, contact sarah@whoisgrace.com!)

Day 2-

BIG IDEA: The Gospel points to a deepening, transformed relationship with God.

READ: John 14:6; 1 Corinthians 15:1-4; John 3:16

REFLECT: How do these verses define the gospel (the good news of Jesus Christ)?

READ: John 3:16; Ephesians 1:15-17; Matthew 28:16-20

REFLECT: What are the three reasons these verses give us for God sacrificing His Son for us?

PRACTICE: Who are you inviting to church, to hear the good news of Jesus? Take a first step and invite them to share a meal with you.

TAKE IT FURTHER!

WATCH: Learn more about the Gospel in this <u>"Gospel of the Kingdom" video</u> from The Bible Project on Right Now Media. (If you do not yet have a RNM account, contact <u>sarah@whoisgrace.com!</u>)

Day 3-

BIG IDEA: The message of Jesus is the only hope for the world.

READ: Romans 1:14-16; John 3:16

REFLECT: According to John, what is the good news ("gospel") of Jesus Christ? In Paul's letter to the Roman Christians he says that he is unashamed of the gospel? Considering the culture of Rome, why is this such a bold statement? Why is that a bold stand to take today? Can we claim to live for Christ and live afraid to share the good news?

PRACTICE: Consider how you will live for Jesus, boldly and unashamed. 1- Develop a heart of compassion for those far from Christ. 2- Be relational. Share Jesus with people you know and love. 3-Lead with kindness, not judgement. 4- Remember the good news every single day.

TAKE IT FURTHER!

WATCH: <u>"Mastered by the Gospel"</u> is a short video on Right Now Media that reminds us that the experience of being loved and transformed in Christ needs shared! (If you do not yet have a RNM account, contact <u>sarah@whoisgrace.com</u>!)

Day 4-

BIG IDEA: Those who believe God is in control of all things will spend their lives for the sake of all peoples.

READ: Matthew 24:14; Matthew 28:19-20; Revelation 5:1-14

REFLECT: If we are committed to living according to God's Word, then the greatest tragedy of our world today is that there are people who will live and die without hearing the Good News of Jesus Christ. What is your personal response to that statement? The Bible clearly indicates that we are His plan to carry this Good News to all peoples- He doesn't need us, but He has invited us into this part of His story. How have you, how are you, how will you step into God's story for all peoples?

PRACTICE: Commit to awareness and prayer- check out the resources from Operation World (app or http://www.operationworld.org/). Spend time praying and asking God to fill your heart with a passion for all peoples and to lead you to a next step.

Want to get involved in global missions at Grace Church as a Go-er, Sender or Sponsor? Contact brian@whoisgrace.com.

TAKE IT FURTHER!

LEARN: The "Global Gospel" series study from David Platt will expand your knowledge, understanding and heart for reaching the world. Grab a friend or a small group and get started with this Right Now Media resource. (If you do not yet have a RNM account, contact sarah@whoisgrace.com!)

Day 5-

READ: 1 Peter 1:1-25

REFLECT: Read this chapter through once. Now, read it again as if Peter is writing to you. How are you encouraged? Challenged? Read it a third time and reflect on all those who do not yet know the Good News of Jesus Christ. What are they missing? Let your heart break for them.

PRACTICE: Use this chapter to guide your prayer time. What does this chapter reveal about who God is? Who Jesus is? Praise Him! Move to a time of confession and repentance- ask God to give you a clean heart. Thank God for His work- for all the mercy, grace, love poured out on you. Finally, ask God to increase your heart's capacity to love and seek out those who need to know Him. Ask Him to lead you to taking a next step toward sharing your story, stepping into God's story for the world.

TAKE IT FURTHER!

WATCH: "The Gospel Defined" from Austin Stone Community Church is a great overview of the Good News. Find it at Right Now Media (If you do not yet have a RNM account, email sarah@whoisgrace.com).