

Teen Devotion

Year C – Epiphany 5

Uncovered



One truth shared: These whom Jesus called to follow him were not the most likely agents of his mission, yet these were the ones whom he called. In this we see the method of Jesus: he doesn't call the qualified, he qualifies and equips the called.

Then Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be afraid; from now on you will fish for people." So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed him."

Luke 5:10-11

Uncovered Agenda

Strange, isn't it, the ones whom Jesus calls to follow him? Even the location of the calling strikes us as odd. They were fishermen who had been up all night fishing a lake and didn't have a single fish. This was their calling and their living.

These guys had no education, not formal rabbi training anyway. They didn't come from the local Jewish Seminary. In fact, later, people were amazed at these guys because they were unschooled, ordinary men (cf. Acts 4:13). There was nothing special about them.

But these were the ones whom Jesus called to follow him, to learn from him, and to carry the gospel out into the world after him.

Strange, isn't it? Jesus also calls you. *You...*

Let that sink in for a moment.

Sinful you? With all that you've done against him, he has still called you.

Timid-and-afraid you? With all your frailties and weaknesses, he has called you.

Unlearned-and-without-all-the-answers you? He has called you.

Jesus doesn't need perfect people to tell other people about him. He forgives us and then he sends us. He doesn't need us to get rid of our weaknesses. His gospel is powerful and matters more than any presentation style. He doesn't need you to know all the answers and be eloquent with words. He promises to give you the Holy Spirit to give you words to say.

Awesome, isn't it! Jesus has called you. First, he called you to faith. Now, he calls you to tell others about him. Jesus has called *you*.

Who will *you* tell about him today?

Prayer: Lord Jesus, it is amazing that you have called me—sinful, weak, and uneducated me. It proves your power and grace! Use me in any way that you choose so that more and more people might know you and believe in you. Amen.

Foundations Teen Facilitators Guide

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Uncovered Agents

Starting the Discussion: *This first section is intended to be light and easy, to engage and get the conversation going. Have a little fun with these questions.*

- Share some of the biggest news from your life this week. What are you really excited about?

Connecting: *This section serves as a bridge between the opening conversation and the body of the study/discussion. It should get the group thinking about the topic/text even before they've looked at it.*

- The gospel is big news, but too often can feel like "old" news (because we've heard it so many times). What are the biggest hurdles that keep you from sharing your faith?

Digging In: *Here we want to dig into some texts or the text for the day and see what Scripture says. The questions are meant to be open ended to give a beginning of a scriptural conversation. These are a guide for a spiritual and scriptural conversation.*

- Recall the disciples whom Jesus called. What is surprising about those he called? Which one surprises you the most? Why?
- Look at Luke 5:1-11. What surprises you in this calling of these disciples?
- Go back to verse 8. How did Peter feel about the call? How did Jesus remove his fears?
- Look at Acts 4:13. What did those who saw Peter testifying know about him?
- What surprises you when you consider that Jesus has called you to follow him and to talk about him?

Conclusion: *Here we want to wrap up the discussion, perhaps circling back to the "connecting question" above.*

- We have a mission. Is it "for" Jesus or "with" Jesus? Discuss the difference in the prepositions.
- Peter told Jesus to go away, but Jesus never went away. Instead, he promised to train Peter and to be with Peter. Jesus had made the same promise to you. What can you do to remember this when you are timid or afraid to share your faith?