



# DEEPER

## UPSTATE GROUP LEADER GUIDE

### WEEK 2 - *MARK 10:17-31*

#### LEADER NOTES

Be sure to sign up for the mandatory group leader training in January by clicking this [link](#).

Last week we introduced our Deeper initiative by inviting people to go deeper by seeking to be connected to Christ. We realized that no spiritual work can be accomplished without the power of Christ that comes through abiding in Him. This week we are going to go a step further and show that connection to Christ and going deeper with Christ comes at a cost. It will require commitment if we are truly going to go deeper.

Use this week to examine your own heart as a leader. Are you truly committed to following Jesus, no matter the cost? What if Jesus asks you to give up more than you bargained for? Are you going to answer the call to go deeper with Jesus? Are you going to walk away having missed the greatest opportunity we have in this life- the opportunity to follow Jesus into a deeper relationship?



FIRST BAPTIST SIMPSONVILLE  
**UPSTATE CHURCH**

# COMMUNITY

*OPEN THE GROUP BY CARING FOR ONE ANOTHER AND ALLOWING A MOMENT FOR EVERYONE TO HAVE A PLACE TO BELONG.*

START THE GROUP BY TAKING PRAYER REQUESTS, FINDING OUT ABOUT PEOPLE'S WEEK, AND PRAYING FOR ONE ANOTHER.

## OPENING QUESTIONS:

- *HAS THERE BEEN A TIME WHEN YOU FELT LIKE CHRIST WAS ASKING TOO MUCH OF YOU? YOU ARE NOT ALONE- THE BIBLE IS FULL OF PEOPLE WHO FELT LIKE GOD WAS ASKING A LOT!*
- *WHY DOES JESUS ASK US TO GIVE UP THINGS THAT ARE IMPORTANT TO US TO FOLLOW HIM IN THIS LIFE?*

# SCRIPTURE

TAKE THIS TIME TO STUDY THE BIBLE TOGETHER. REMEMBER, THE GOAL IS NOT JUST TO CONVEY INFORMATION, BUT TO HELP PEOPLE IN YOUR GROUP LEARN TO READ THE BIBLE FOR THEMSELVES.

## THE POINT

TO GO DEEPER WITH JESUS, IT WILL REQUIRE A COMMITMENT TO HIM THAT IS GREATER THAN OUR COMMITMENT TO ANYTHING AND EVERYTHING ELSE.

### **Mark 10:17-31**

"And as he was setting out on his journey, a man ran up and knelt before him and asking him, 'Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' 18 And Jesus said to him, 'Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone. 19 You know the commandments: 'Do not murder, Do not commit adultery, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Do not defraud, Honor your father and mother.' 20 And he said to him, 'Teacher, all these I have kept from my youth.' 21 And Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, 'You lack one thing: go, sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.' 22 Disheartened by the saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions. 23 And Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, 'How difficult it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God! 25 It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God.' 26 And they were exceedingly astonished, and said to him, 'Then who can be saved?' 27 Jesus looked at them and said, 'With man it is impossible, but not with God. For all things are possible with God.' 28 Peter began to say to him, 'See, we have left everything and followed you.' 29 Jesus said, 'Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel, 30 who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life. 31 But many who are first will be last, and the last first."

*The Holy Bible: English Standard Version* (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), John 15:1–11.

# STUDY NOTES

The takeaway this week is simple: **If we are going to follow Christ, then it is going to require the surrender of every area of our lives.** Dietrich Bonhoeffer, the German theologian who stood up against Hitler, once said,

“When Christ calls a man, he bids him come and die.”

This quote comes to life in this passage. Christ shows that the path to heaven only becomes clear when we die to ourselves and surrender everything we are to him. The rich young ruler leaves sad because he thinks Jesus is asking for too much. However, what the man misses is that Christ isn't asking him to give up his life and gain nothing in return. Instead, Christ is calling this man to give up his life and gain everything!

If we could sum up the take aways for this week they would look like this:

1. Going deeper with Jesus will require everything we have.
2. When we sacrifice everything we have for Jesus, we lose nothing at all, because Jesus is better than anything this world has to offer.

Once these takeaways become clear, the question for us becomes obvious: Am I willing to sacrifice everything that I am to go deeper with Jesus Christ? For our church, the answer to that question must be yes!

***For more resources on this passage click the resources link [HERE](#).***

## QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

- *Why is it significant that instead of giving this young man more rules to gain eternal life, Jesus calls this man to surrender his most prized possessions?*
- *What is the difference between following the rules and surrendering everything to Jesus?*
- *How does Jesus give us more to live for once we surrender everything to him?*
- *How can we live with an eternal perspective instead of focusing on temporary things?*
- *How have you seen Christ bless you more than you can imagine when you've surrendered to him?*

# COMMISSION

AS YOU WRAP UP YOUR GROUP, IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT EVERYONE KNOWS WE GO INTO THE WORLD ON MISSION FOR JESUS. USE THIS TIME TO FOCUS EVERYONE TO LIVE ON MISSION AS YOU LEAVE.

- WHAT IS GOD CALLING YOU TO SURRENDER SO THAT YOU CAN LIVE ON MISSION FOR HIM?
- WHO IN YOUR LIFE NEEDS TO KNOW JESUS?



**CONNECTION  
COMMUNITY  
COMMITTMENT  
COMISSION**