



An apprentice had three goals in life: to be with their rabbi, to become like their rabbi, and to do what they did. The same is true for us today as we seek to follow Jesus. Our goal is to be with Jesus, to become like Jesus, and to do what He did.

These questions are intended to deepen your experience of the message. Use them for your personal or family study time, or with an open Bible as you share the good news with your neighbor.

Group Ice-Breaker:

What comes to your mind when you hear the word "apprentice"?

What did your mom or dad teach you how to do? How did they teach you?

A BETTER WORD. What does "Christian" mean to most people today? A common view: "To believe Jesus is God's Son, who died for my sins, and believing this will give you hope of salvation." What's missing from this definition? Contrast that with the word "apprentice." Do you think first of what someone *believes* or what someone *does*?

THE IDEA OF AN APPRENTICE. Definition: "A person who is learning a trade by experience from a skilled employer." Think back to when you learned from your dad or mom in the house or on the farm. How does the word "apprentice" capture more of what Jesus is calling us to be?

THE PATH TO APPRENTICESHIP. Early Jewish students would memorize their Torah, and the best of them would memorize the whole Old Testament. But only some of these could go on to be rabbis. Discuss what this means to you.

THE GOALS OF AN APPRENTICE.

Read Mark 3:14 & Luke 6:40.

1. Be WITH your rabbi. Discuss the beginning of Mark 3:14. A student would spend every waking moment with their teacher. Why was this important?
2. Become LIKE your rabbi. Discuss Luke 6:40. A student would try to become a "Carbon copy" of their master. Why is this important?
3. Do AS your rabbi. Discuss the end of Mark 3:14. This was the whole goal of apprenticeship. What would that look like for a Christian?

EXAMINING OURSELVES. Read Mark 4:19. How do "lunch counter" scenes from the Civil Rights movement illustrate discipleship/apprenticeship? What kind of training was required? What kind of focus?

WHOSOEVER WILL. Read Matt 16:24 (NIV) and Rev 22:17. How is this similar and different from 1st cen. Rabbis?