



What is the goal of an apprentice? What are we hoping all our training in the school of Christ will bring? The answer is simply this: “to do as the Master did.” But since our Master is still alive and working, we are called to as He does, were he to walk in my shoes. The startling truth is this: He does live in our shoes and in our hearts. So what are we doing?

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 “Christian”?

What comes to your mind when you hear the word “disciple”?

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

THE GOAL OF A CHRISTIAN. To say our goal is to “get to heaven” is like saying the goal of attending medical school is to “retire.” The aim of the disciple or apprentice is to be with their master (**Mark 3:14**), so as to become like their master (**Luke 6:40**), so they might do what their master has taught them to do (**Mark 3:14**). The goal of the Christian is to do as Jesus did. Discuss.

FOLLOW ME. Read **Mark 1:16-18**. There are three unique things about Jesus’ call. (1) His call is not to follow God (as all Rabbis would say), but to follow ‘Me’ (**Matt 11:28-30**). (2) Disciples would find their own teacher; in this case, Jesus does his own calling. (3) Jesus calls his followers not just to learn, but to do. Discuss.

IF HE WERE ME. “What would Jesus do?” is a great question, but hard to answer in our current context. It is more helpful to ask “what would Jesus do...if He were me.” Discuss.

DO AS HE DOES. Read **Acts 1:1-2**. Did you notice that Luke claims his first gospel was about “all that Jesus BEGAN to do and teach”? What does that mean? The passages continues with reference to Jesus giving commands and the followers waiting for the Spirit of Power—available to all believers (**Acts 2:38-39**). Discuss what it means for Jesus to continue to do and teach, through the Holy Spirit, in and among the followers of Jesus.

GREATER THINGS. Read **John 14:12**. Jesus says that believers will DO the works of Jesus, but will also do “even greater things” than these. This can refer to (1) quality or (2) quantity. Whatever Jesus means by “greater things,” he can’t mean “lesser things.” Discuss how this is a challenging call to do as Jesus did.

CALLING FOR THE WEEK. Would you say your life goal is to “do as Jesus did”? If not, what needs to change?