

# leave a mark

## Week One - Leave a Mark on Your Neighborhood

### BOTTOM LINE

Deep down inside, we all long to live lives that are filled with purpose, significance, and adventure.

### GOAL OF THE GROUP

As you read scripture together and share personal reflections and life application, God will reveal new things that you might not have grasped without group discussion. God delights in having a relationship with you, and he delights in your relationship with one another. Everyone should feel safe to share openly as the group practices grace, kindness, and encouragement.

### SCRIPTURE

Matthew 28:16-20, Luke 5:27-31, Mark 8:34-36, Mark 9:35, and Mark 10:42-45

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Share: Share an adventure you have experienced in your life, or an adventure that is planned or that you hope to experience some day.
2. **Read Matthew 28:16-20 together.**
  - a. Jesus commands all believers to go and make disciples. The word "go" can be translated "as you go". For you, in your life, where is "as you go"?
  - b. One "as you go" in your life might be the neighborhood you live in. Describe your neighborhood and the relationship you currently have with your neighbors.
  - c. Jesus claims to have ALL authority in heaven and on earth. What areas of your life does Jesus have authority in and what areas does He not? How do you determine if Jesus has authority in your life?
  - d. This was a dangerous mission for Jesus' disciples. Yet they accepted the challenge. What do you think gave them the willingness and courage to take on this mission? Why would they obey? Do you have an example of when you obeyed something you felt God asking you to do?
3. **Read Luke 5:27-31 together.**
  - a. Jesus continually received accusations from religious leaders because they didn't think he was maintaining a respectable public image or obeying Jewish laws. What is Jesus' response in verse 31?
  - b. With these words in mind, who do you envision Jesus hanging out with if he were here today? Explain. What about you? Is there someone, or a group who, if you were to hang out with, you may feel accused or judged by the "religious leaders"? Sometimes the tables are turned and you feel judged for hanging out with "church people". What do you think Jesus would say about that?
4. **Read Mark 8:34-36, Mark 9:35, and Mark 10:42-45 together.**
  - a. How do these verses make you feel? Do you experience a sense of relief to consider letting go of striving and control?
  - b. Do you experience a sense of fear as you contemplate what it could feel like to submit, serve, and not be in control?
  - c. We live in a culture that values power, fame, success, and winning. Think of someone you would be **excited** to meet because of their status, power or success. Now, think of someone you admire for being on mission regardless of the cost of status, power, or notoriety and share with the group.

"I used to be afraid of failing at something that really mattered to me, but now I'm more afraid of succeeding at things that don't matter." Bob Goff

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## TRY THIS

Leave a mark on my neighborhood by... (1) Meeting a neighbor you've never met, (2) Inviting a neighbor family for dinner, or (3) Secretly doing something to help a neighbor. Pick one to do this week. Share your experience during your next group meeting!