

Disciple (1-12-25)
CORE Questions

Read Matthew 15:1-2

- 1. What are some things that you love about your church or worship experience that you might be upset about if someone changed the way we do them or they were no longer included in worship?*
- 2. What are some examples of things that you may consider a tradition or expectation that has changed over time in order to engage more people in worship? (Example: wearing your "Sunday best")*

Read Acts 9:1-19

- 3. In your opinion, what is the scariest thing about following Jesus?*
- 4. Spend a few minutes discussing if there was anything in your past that kept you from following Jesus more boldly or if there is anything currently that may be keeping you from being "all in," and following Jesus more boldly.*

Read John 19:38-42

- 5. It's so easy for many of us to relate to Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus who both wanted to follow Jesus but were both afraid. In this passage we see where they were still called disciples even though before this point they were too afraid to follow publicly. What hope do you gain in knowing that discipleship is a journey and a process?*

Family/Kids: *Read John 19:38-42. This passage explains in Verse 38 that Joseph followed Jesus secretly because he was afraid of the Jews. Have you ever felt afraid of following Jesus or worried about what other people might think about you if you follow Jesus?*

- 1. Name one thing that seems a little scary to you about following Jesus.*
- 2. What are some things we could do that might help us get over our fears?*

Memory Scripture: Deuteronomy 6:5-9

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Prayer Prompt: *Father, help me to lay my preferences and fears aside and follow You with all of my heart. In Jesus' Name . . . Amen and Amen!*