



**“Inviting People to Apprenticeship to Jesus:
learning to live by faith,
transmit hope,
and be known by love.”**

Crossroads Church of God
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Sundays at 9 & 10:45 am
Online at 10:45am



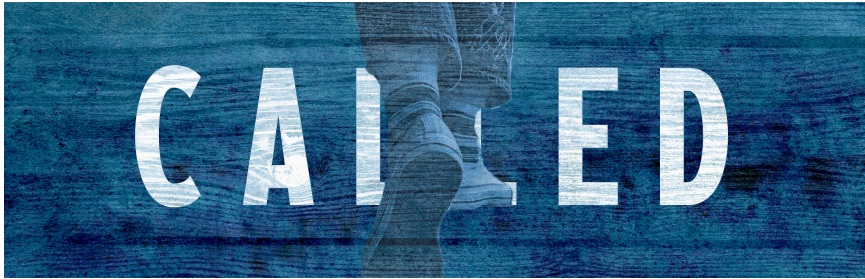
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**INVITING PEOPLE TO
APPRENTICESHIP TO JESUS:
LEARNING TO LIVE BY FAITH,
TRANSMIT HOPE, AND
BE KNOWN BY LOVE.**

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Week 1: Apprenticeship

September 6-12



A Worshipping Community



A Learning-Disciplined Community



A Generous Community

Live by Faith



A Serving Community



A Cross-Cultural Community



A Sharing Community

Transmit Hope



A Known Community



A Mentoring Community



A Reconciling Community

Known by Love

Apprentice of Jesus: someone learning to live their life as Jesus would lead it if he were them.

Apprenticeship

A brief note on Apprenticeship. When we speak of apprenticeship, we are talking engaging in the process of Spiritual Transformation and taking on Christlikeness. The vision of our life with Christ is one where we are increasingly becoming like Him in our character. Consider Dallas Willard's words...

So, we should be perfectly clear about one thing: Jesus never expected us simply to turn the other cheek, go the second mile, bless those who persecute us, give unto them that ask, and so forth. These responses, generally and rightly understood to be characteristic of Christlikeness, were set forth by him as illustrative of what might be expected of a new kind of person – one who intelligently and steadfastly seeks, above all else, to live within the rule of God and be possessed by the kind of righteousness that God himself has, as Matthew 6:33 portrays.

Instead, Jesus did invite people to follow him into that sort of life from which behavior such as loving one's enemies will seem like the only sensible and happy thing to do. For a person living that life, the hard thing to do would be to hate the enemy, to turn the suppliant away, or to curse the curser, just as it was for Christ. True Christlikeness, true companionship with Christ, comes at the point where it is hard not to respond as he would.

(The Spirit of the Disciplines, Dallas Willard)

Apprenticeship isn't a lonely journey, which is why we emphasize Covenant Partnership. A Covenant Partner is someone who is committed to learning the ways of Jesus with us together, as a community.

As Covenant Partners, we agree together to work through the framework of formation – practices we intentionally engage in to foster spiritual growth.

A big part of Covenant Partnership is choosing a Spiritual Companion to accompany you on your apprenticeship

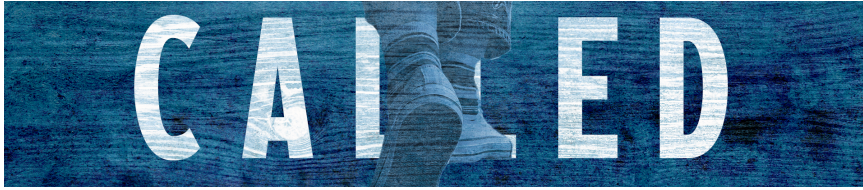
Apprentice of Jesus: someone learning to live their life as Jesus would lead it if he were them.

[illegible]

journey. A Spiritual Companion is a friend or mentor to talk with over coffee about faith-related questions and life struggles. When you begin your apprenticeship to Jesus and choose an area of the formation to work on, your Spiritual Companion is your friend to encourage you in the ways of Jesus, and your mentor to counsel you through life's tough times.

This is a life-long journey we engage in and should ebb and flow in our journey. The important piece is not perfection but progress. We are excited to be on this journey together and seek to pursue the life of Christ together.

-Pastor Brian



Study Questions

Read Matthew 11:28-30 and Matthew 28:18-20.

Apprenticeship definition:

to learn to do what Jesus
would do if He were living
your life. (*Philippians 2:5*).

1. What comes to mind when you think of “apprenticeship”?

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2. Is there a difference between being a “Christian” and being an “Apprentice”? Explain.

[illegible]

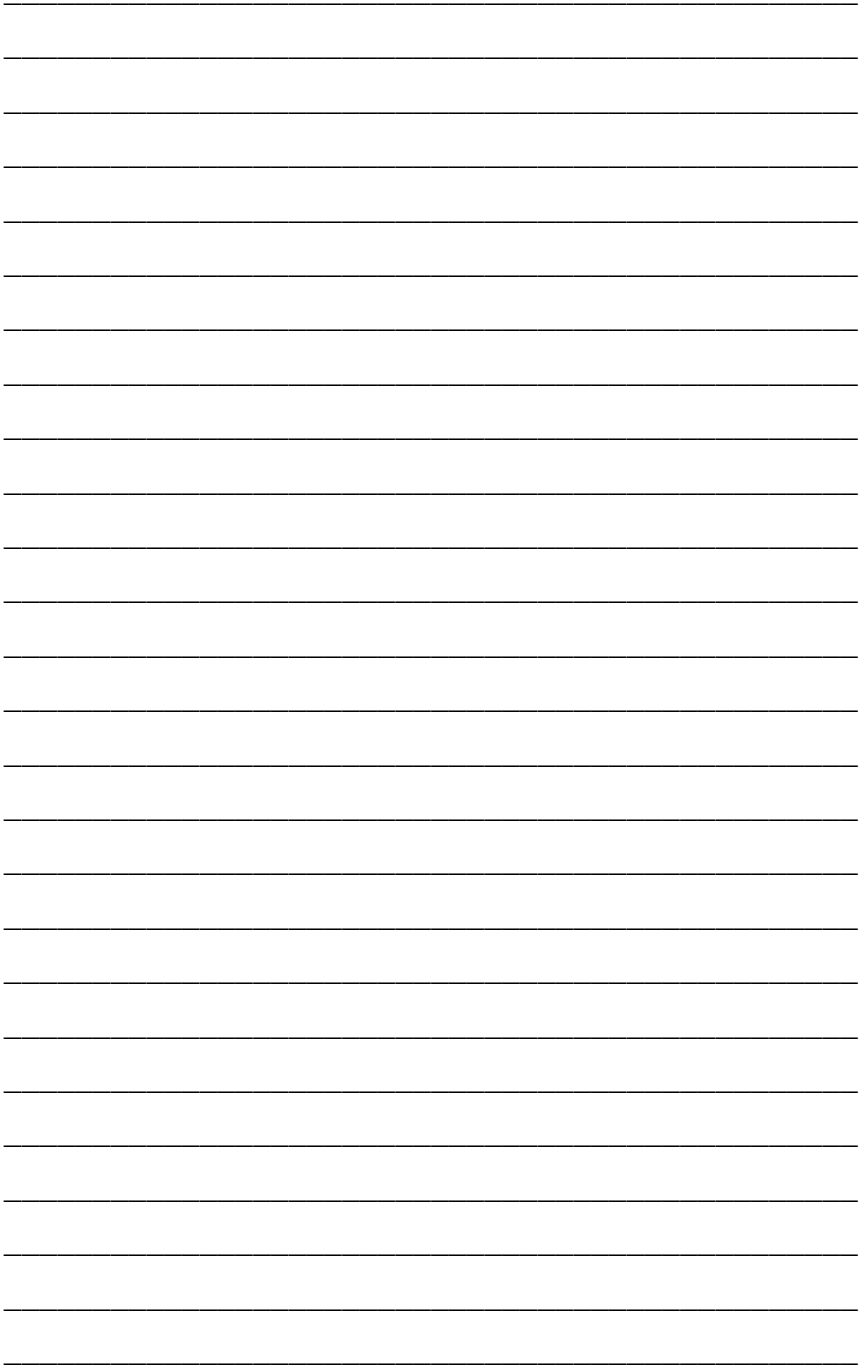
An **apprentice** is one who learns a trade or way of doing something from a teacher. The biblical word “disciple” is closest to this notion of apprenticeship – that we would learn a way of being in the world from Jesus, our Savior and Teacher.

3. Why does Jesus desire us to follow in his ways?

[illegible]

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This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, providing a guide for writing. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.



Ephesians 4:20-24 - Use your Bible, pen and paper – but not to distract you from the Presence of God!

[illegible]

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[illegible]

[illegible]

3. If Jesus were standing in my shoes, dealing with what I am dealing with, how would he handle it? What would be the condition of his heart? What would be his disposition?

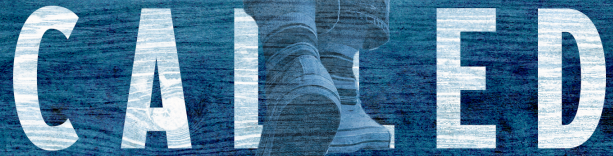
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Apprentice of Jesus: someone learning to live their life as Jesus would lead it if he were them.



Week 2: A Worshiping Community

September 13-19

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Solitude & Reflection

1. Meditate and reflect on the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13). Write down your thoughts as it relates to reconciliation.


[illegible]

Known by love: recognize the dignity in one another leading to selfless servanthood.

4. What are barriers to reconciliation?

[illegible]

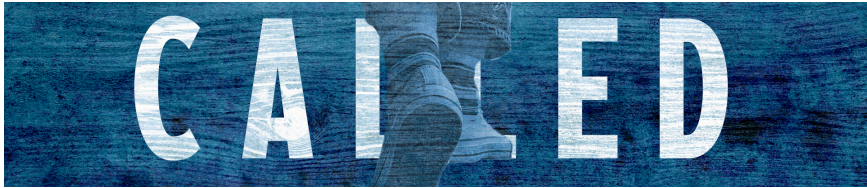
70 Known by love: recognize the dignity in one another leading to selfless servanthood.

A watercolor illustration of a loaf of bread, a glass of red wine, and several slices of bread, symbolizing the Eucharist. The bread is golden-brown with a soft texture, and the wine is a deep red. The illustration is positioned in the bottom right corner of the page.

A Worshipping Community

One Thing I want to take away from this message:

Live by faith: trusting and believing the ways of Jesus lead to eternal life. 15



Study Questions

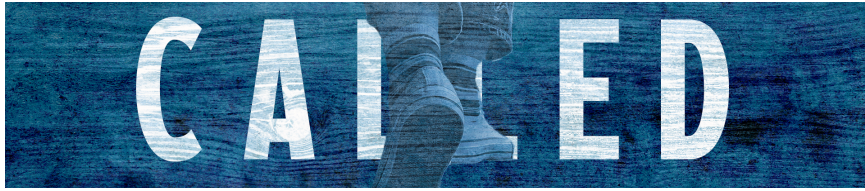
Read John 4:21-24 and Hebrews 10:19-25.

Learn to live by faith
definition:
trusting and believing that
the ways of Jesus lead to
eternal life.

1. What do you think Jesus means by worshipping in “spirit and truth”?

2. How does unresolved conflict break down community and the ability to love one another well?

3. Why does Jesus give us instruction to deal with the conflict quickly?



Study Questions

Read Matthew 18:15-17 and Matthew 5:21-24.

1. How does Jesus describe our approach to conflict resolution? What steps does he give?

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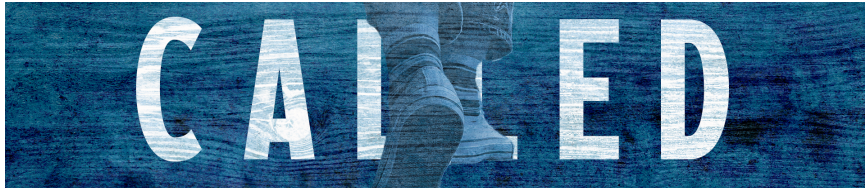
2. Part of the gathering of God's people is to retell the story of faith (scripture reading, prayer, sermons, etc.) why might the practice of story telling be important for our faith journey?

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

3. God is the object of our worship. How does that perspective help to keep us away from a performance mindset in our worship gatherings?

[illegible]

Live by faith: trusting and believing the ways of Jesus lead to eternal life. 17



Study Questions

Read Matthew 18:15-17 and Matthew 5:21-24.

1. How does Jesus describe our approach to conflict resolution? What steps does he give?

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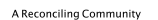
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3. God is the object of our worship. How does that perspective help to keep us away from a performance mindset in our worship gatherings?

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Live by faith: trusting and believing the ways of Jesus lead to eternal life. 17

[illegible]A small potted plant with a broken pot and a bandage, symbolizing reconciliation. The pot is brown and cracked, with a yellow bandage wrapped around it. A small green plant with two leaves is growing out of the soil. The pot is sitting on a light blue surface, and there are some small brown seeds or soil particles scattered around it. The background is white.

67

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Week 3: A Disciplined Community

September 20-26

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Solitude & Reflection

1. Reflect on your own story of faith. Recall the people who have mentored and poured into you. Spend time thanking God for their influence.

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Known by love: recognize the dignity in one another leading to selfless servanthood.

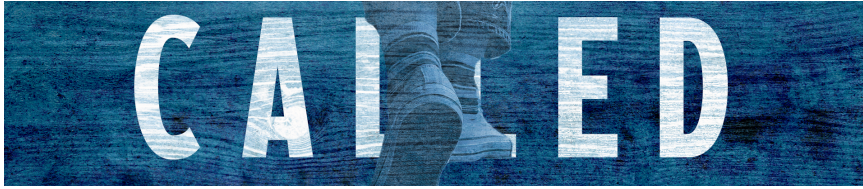
[illegible]

64

A cartoon-style illustration of kitchen items. A wooden nutcracker with a green cup is on the left. A rolling pin with a wooden handle is in the center. A small yellow object, possibly a piece of butter or a small cake, is on the right. Several small yellow pieces are scattered on the surface around the rolling pin.

A Learning/Disciplined Community

21



Study Questions

Read Mark 1:35-39.

1. Why do you think Jesus got away to a solitary place to pray?

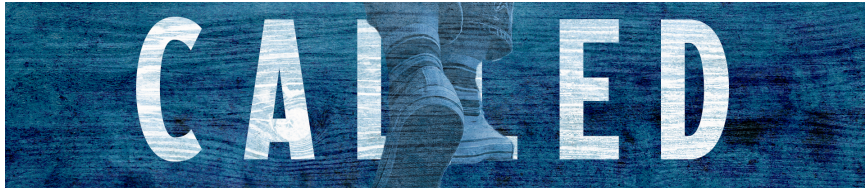
[illegible]

2. How does mentoring shape the life of a believer?

[illegible]

3. Those mentoring often get as much if not more than those being mentored. Why is that the case?

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines, typical of notebook paper. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.



Study Questions

Read Matthew 18:1-5 and 2 Timothy 2:2.

1. Faith in God is to be commended one generation to the next. Describe how someone poured their life into yours and mentored you.

[illegible]

2. Jesus' rhythm was to be active and then have a season of pulling away for solitude, silence and prayer. How is your rhythm of life? Is the current rhythm of life sustainable?

[illegible]

3. Dallas Willard once gave the following advice when seeking to understand our steps of growth: you must ruthlessly rid yourselves from hurry. Why might hurry be damaging to our soul?

[illegible]



This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. The paper has a slight shadow on the right side, suggesting it's resting on a surface.

[illegible]

Known by love: recognize the dignity in one another leading to selfless servanthood.



Week 11: A Mentoring Community

November 15-21

[illegible]This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.



Week 4: A Generous Community

September 27- October 3

[illegible]

Solitude & Reflection

1. Make a list of people who really *know* you. Pray over the list with gratitude to God for such community. If you are struggling to make a list, pray that the Lord will give you the courage to walk toward community where others may know you and encourage your life with God.

[illegible]

Known by love: recognize the dignity in one another leading to selfless servanthood.

[illegible]An illustration of a hand holding a coin, with another coin falling away. The hand is rendered in a realistic, slightly textured style. The coin is a simple, brown, oval shape. The background is white with horizontal lines.



Study Questions

Read Genesis 12:1-3 and Matthew 6:19-24.

1. What is the implication of the blessing given to Abraham?

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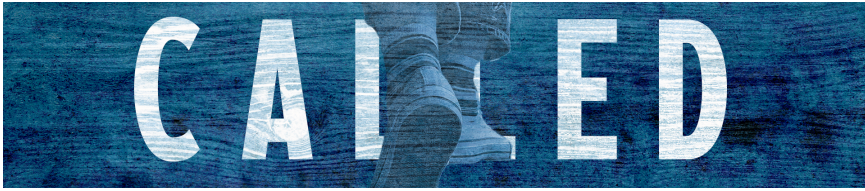
2. Describe a time in your life when community mattered and made an impact.

[illegible]

3. While Jesus taught the multitudes, he invited a much smaller group to travel and get to “know” him. Why might that be important?

[illegible]

Known by love: recognize the dignity in one another leading to selfless servanthood.



Study Questions

Read John 17:20-23 and Acts 2:42.


**Learn to be known by
love definition:**
recognizing the dignity
of one another leading to
selfless servanthood.

1. Why did Jesus pray for unity within the body of Christ?

2. Why would Jesus make a claim about how we steward our money?

3. Respond to the following statement: how we handle our resources (time, money, abilities, material goods, etc.) says something about the condition of our heart.

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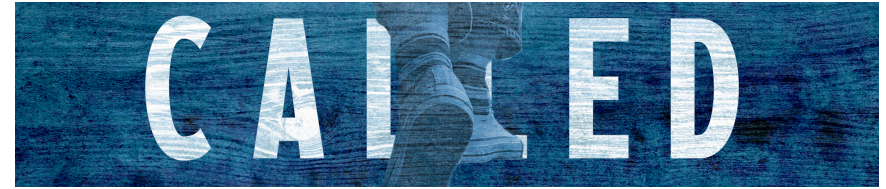
A collection of various chairs and a table, including a round wooden table, a green chair, a blue chair, a yellow chair, a red chair, a white chair, a black chair, a wooden stool, and a rocking chair.

55



Week 10: A Caring Community

November 8-14



Solitude & Reflection

1. Read/reflect on Genesis 12:1-3. In what ways have you been blessed in order to bring a blessing to others? What stands in your way?



Week 5: Reflection and Response

October 4-10

1. How have you experienced the grace of God last month?

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, providing a template for writing. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

2. How do you need to receive the grace of God this month?

[illegible]



Week 9: Reflection and Response

November 1-7

1. How have you experienced the grace of God last month?

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines, typical of notebook paper. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

2. How do you need to receive the grace of God this month?

[illegible]



Week 6: A Serving Community

October 11-17


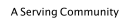


Solitude & Reflection

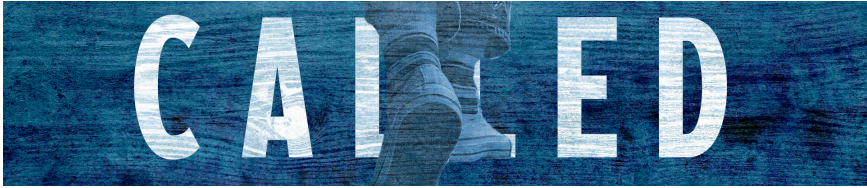
1. Think about those in your sphere of influence to whom God may be sending you. Bring those names to the Lord in prayer and ask that he provide wisdom and words to share.

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50

A wooden stool with a blue cloth draped over its top. Next to the stool is a blue and white striped bowl. The entire page is filled with horizontal lines for writing.

35



Study Questions

Read Mark 10:42-45.

Learn to transmit hope
defintion:
proclaiming and
demonstrating the reality
and goodness of life with
God.

1. Why does Jesus tell his disciples that their approach to greatness will be different from that of the world?

2. What qualifications does Jesus give for one to be sent?

3. If we are sent people, what are we to proclaim?



Study Questions

Read Matthew 4:18-20 and Romans 10:12-15.

1. For what purpose does Jesus call his disciples in Matthew 4?

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. The paper has a slight shadow on its right side, suggesting it's resting on a surface.

48 Transmit hope: proclaiming and demonstrating the reality and goodness of life with God.

2. Why is the spotlight so appealing for people?

[illegible]

3. How does serving others connect with transmitting the hope we have in the goodness of life with God?

[illegible]

Transmit hope: proclaiming and demonstrating the reality and goodness of life with God.



Solitude & Reflection

1. Read over Matthew 5:43-48. What stands out to you in this passage? What significance is it that God bring blessing on righteous and unrighteous? How does that challenge our notion that we will serve those who deserve it?

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.An illustration in the bottom right corner of the page. It features a purple mug on the left, an orange mug on the right with a green tea bag hanging out, a blue pen, and a newspaper clipping with the headline "Why It Matters!" and a picture of a person.

A Sharing Community

One Thing I want to take away from this message:



Week 8: A Sharing Community

October 25-31

[illegible]This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.



Week 7: A Cross-Cultural Community

October 18-24

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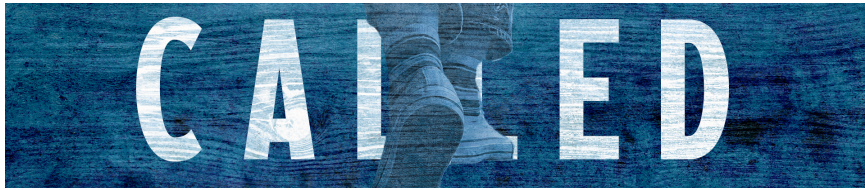
Solitude & Reflection

1. Read Revelation 7:9-10. In what ways does this vision contrast our experience in our culture today? Turn that into a prayer.

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.[illegible]

A Cross-Cultural Community

One Thing I want to take away from this message:



Study Questions

Read ACTS 10:9-48 and Galatians 3:28.

1. Jesus' disciples were from all walks of life. Why would Jesus select such a diverse group of people to be his first disciples?

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42

Transmit hope: proclaiming and demonstrating the reality and goodness of life with God.

2. Describe your experience cross-culturally. Why might cross-cultural experiences be an important step in the life of a follower of Jesus?

[illegible]

3. Some have said that this is the “conversion of Cornelius”. Others have called it the “conversion of Peter”. Which do you think is a better explanation? Why?

[illegible]

Transmit hope: proclaiming and demonstrating the reality and goodness of life with God. 4