Crossroads Covenant Church
sermon-based small group discussion guide for November 25, 2018

Getting to Know Us- building intimacy in your shared group

There are no pre-determined questions this week. Instead, simply chat about whatever may come up as everyone arrives and gets settled. Testing the waters on everyone's comfort level engaging in "small talk".

Getting into the Word- digging deeper into the message

1. In this week's message, we saw Peter in a series of events: working according to his own expertise but with no harvest, followed by obeying the Lord even when he (as a fishing expert) thought it would come to nothing, followed by hauling in an overabundance of fish. What does this teach us in our daily jobs and in our spiritual work?

2. Luke 5:11 says that they left "everything" to follow Jesus. Read the parallel passages, Matthew 4:18-22 and Mark 1:16-20, which also tell us that the men left their work and families to follow Jesus. What does their immediate, willing obedience teach us about priorities, and where we place Jesus Christ compared to everything else in our lives?

3. During the sermon, Pastor Aaron emphasized that not all blessings for obedience will be material like Peter's catch of fish. Read Matthew 6:19-21 and Matthew 19:23-30. Discuss and imagine what kind of treasures the Lord has in heaven for those who obey Him sacrificially while on earth.

Application- sharing personal experiences

1. All of us still struggle with authority in one way or another: disobeying laws we disagree with or find inconvenient, gossiping and speaking against a leader, or rebelling with a bad attitude in our hearts. Share one time that you struggled against an authority figure, and how God's word and the Spirit worked in you (or still is working in you!) to change your heart to obedience to that authority.

2. Has God ever called you to completely give up something important: a career, associating with friends, or even family, for His sake? It wasn't easy, but in hindsight how did you see the value of that calling?