Lesson 4: Chapters 10-12

Small Group Lesson

Key Scriptures: *Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need. — Matthew 6:33*

Each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire. — I Corinthians 3:13-15

Follow Me [Jesus], and I will make you become fishers of men. —Matthew 4:19

The Big Idea:

We have learned about who Jesus is and how He loves differently. We can also see how He calls us to lead our lives in a unique way. It is easy to live aimlessly, without closely evaluating what we care about most. Jesus teaches us what is most important in the kingdom of God and how we can learn to adopt kingdom values.

Main Points:

1. Relating to the Kingdom
    1. Jesus was passionate to an extreme about His Father's Kingdom.
    2. We are called to place the kingdom of God above every other pursuit in our lives.

        Discussion Question:
        What are some of the passions that people seek that can come before the kingdom. And why is it often easy for us to look to other things to satisfy us besides God?
2. Relating to stewardship
    1. One day we will stand before God to give an account for our lives.
    2. We don't have a reason to be unprepared though– He has given us the answers to the test!

3. Being prepared for that day means keeping our faith alive, using the gifts we have been entrusted with, and loving others well.

   Discussion Question:
   What are your values? Will those values pass the test of what is truly important on the day we give account for our lives? If yes why, if no why?

3. Relating to your mission
   1. As Christians, we are all part of the same mission– to point people towards Jesus. It is a team effort.
   2. Jesus passed the mission on to His disciples and it is our turn to study how Jesus did it and become a part of that mission.
   3. We need endurance to finish our race, our mission. Staying connected to Jesus and to the Word of God will keep us energized on our journey.

      Discussion Question:
      How do you feel about being a part of Jesus' mission? Impacting one person is just as obedient as impacting multitudes. Take a few moments to brainstorm possible ideas to minister to those around us in practical ways.

Challenge:

It is human nature to have worldly passions and values and our own agendas. If we are to align with the values of God’s kingdom, it requires us to be intentional about changing our perspective. Take some time this week to reflect on your values and how they fit with the mission we have been given.