

Small Group Discussion Guide

“At the Movies” (pt. 6) – 10/18/2014

Scripture: John 15:1-17

Bottom Line: A disciple is one who glorifies God by rooting his identity, full joy, and fruitfulness in Jesus.

INTRODUCTION: Have everyone in the group write down what they think a disciple is. What does a disciple of Jesus look like? Have them keep it nearby for later.

UNPACKING THE GOSPEL IN THE BIBLE:

Read John 15:1-17

What is the “I AM” statement in the passage? Why is the vine/branch analogy important when looking at our relationship with Jesus?

- Jesus is the source of nutrients for us just as the vine is the source of nutrients for the branches. He is our support, strength, and hope.

Just as the vine is more essential than the branch, being a disciple begins with Jesus, not you. It is easy to flip our identity with Jesus’ so that he exists to serve us when in fact he is our Lord. Practically, what are some ways we replace our identity with Jesus?

Jesus commands us to abide in him. To abide means to remain or stay close to him. What has Jesus done to unite us to him?

- He loves us (vs.9), He died for our sins (vs.13), He chose us (vs. 16)

What comes out of my life from my union/abiding in Jesus?

- My desires equal God’s desires (vs. 7), I glorify God (v.8), I have joy. (v.11), I live a life of repentance (constantly refocusing my life on Jesus (Matt 3:18), The Holy Spirit produces godly character in me. (Gal. 5:22-23).

LIVING OUT THE GOSPEL IN MY EVERYDAY LIFE:

Would you change your description of a disciple? What is the target that a disciple is aiming for in life?

- We define ourselves based on what Jesus says about us, not what anyone else says. So what does he say about you? Christ says I am loved, forgiven, adopted, etc. This gives us joy. In response to this, we live our lives seeking to honor God out of gratitude for his great work.