



Group Leader Guide “Come & See” - Searching For Me September 19-20, 2020

Group Creed

We come together as a Group with the goal of Spiritual Formation; encouraging one another to become the same kind of person that Jesus is, so that we can live out every part of our lives inside of His Kingdom.

// Message Summary

Jim Burgen wraps up **Searching For Me** with Flatirons' fifth and final value: relational evangelism. Aligning our life with Jesus means valuing the same things He values. Since He valued lost and broken people and invited them to follow Him, we are to do the same thing with the people in our lives that we love and care about who don't know Jesus yet.

// Biblical Background

John 1:38-42: John does a good job of clarifying any unfamiliar terms to his readers. He does this three times in this passage (“which means...”). The terms he is clarifying are Aramaic or Hebrew words. Since his original readers spoke Greek, he would translate these for them. Here is a little more information on these terms, however.

Rabbi/Teacher (v. 38): an honorary title given to teachers or scholarly mentors in the Jewish tradition. This custom is still practiced today. A rabbi of Jesus' time would often have disciples, or followers, who would spend most of their time with him, aiming to learn everything he taught and become more like him.

Messiah/Christ (v. 41): Messiah (Hebrew/Aramaic) and Christ (Greek), literally “anointed one,” are references to the Hebrew prophecy that God would send someone to deliver the Israelites for good and usher in the Kingdom of God. Andrew is claiming

that Jesus is this promised Messiah. However, most people at the time believed that the Messiah was going to be mainly a political figure.

Cephas/Peter (v. 42): Rabbis often gave their disciples nicknames. “Cephas” (Aramaic) and “Peter” (Greek) mean “rock.” This nickname makes more sense when viewed next to the story in **Matthew 16:13-19** we discussed last week.

John 1:45: “We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote” is a reference to the Messiah and the messianic prophecy spoken of in the Old Testament. “The Law and the Prophets” was a way of referencing the Hebrew scriptures, what we now know as the Old Testament.

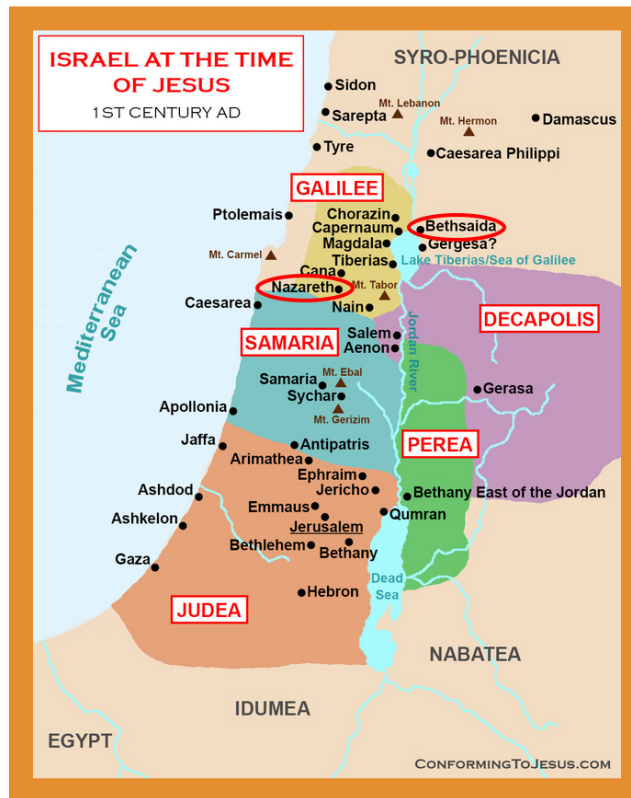
// Places

Galilee: Galilee is a region in northern Israel, famous for the Sea of Galilee, a large lake. Galilee is where Jesus did most of His ministry.

Bethsaida: a small fishing village on the banks of the sea of Galilee. The city's name literally means “place of fishing or hunting.” (circled on map)

Nazareth: A very small town in Galilee in which Jesus grew up after being born in Bethlehem. Some scholars suggest a village rivalry as the source of Nathanael's disdain for Nazareth, much like the city of a hated sports rival (nothing good comes from Kansas City!). Another explanation is that

it was just a small, backwoods town where one would not expect the Messiah to come from. (circled on map)



// In Preparation

This weekend's message may ruffle some feathers! Jim challenges everyone to look outside of themselves and identify someone that doesn't know Jesus in their lives and invite them to watch/attend service. In doing so, he calls out some of the excuses we, as Christians, make to keep ourselves from regularly doing this. Many of the discussion questions this week are meant to probe into your member's motivations and excuses. We are looking for honest answers here, not the "church answer." We want people to adequately assess themselves so that they can effectively move forward. So, if you sense someone not being honest in their answers, or trying to skirt past something, challenge them on it. Don't call them out and shame them or anything like that, but keep gently probing to see if they can come up with an honest answer. Again, this isn't about shaming someone for being a "bad" Christian. We just want groups to be a place where people can truly GROW, and awareness of where we are currently is the only way we can get to where we want to go.

// References

Keener, Craig S Ph.d. *IVP Bible Background Commentary: New Testament*. InterVarsity Press, 2014.

Zodhiates, Spiros. *The Complete Word Study Dictionary: New Testament*. AMG Publishers, 1994.



Group Discussion Questions

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// Bible References

1 John 4:20; John 13:34-35; 1 Corinthians 10:23; John 1:38-46; Romans 10:13-15

// Message Screenshots

- We either do or don't value the same things that Jesus does.
- For His Glory AND For Their Benefit
- God describes a better way to live IF we are willing to ADJUST our lives to what God says is right, true, and better.

// Community Questions

1. Did you have any new revelations from last week's discussion questions during your reflection time this past week?
2. The band played “Bohemian Rhapsody” this weekend, a song they have wanted to play for years! What is your favorite special the band has played since you have been attending Flatirons?

// Core Questions

1. What was your initial reaction to Jim announcing services re-opening on October 4th? Were you more happy that the church was “standing up for its rights!” or that lost and broken people may have a new opportunity to experience Jesus?
2. Do you plan on registering to attend Flatirons in person? Why or why not?
3. Which “third” would you place yourself in: the third that doesn't believe or trust in Jesus, the third just starting out in trusting Jesus, or the third that has followed Jesus for some time?
4. What is your general attitude toward inviting people to “come and see”?
5. How often are you looking for an opportunity to invites someone to see what Jesus is all about?
6. If inviting people to “come and see” is not a big part of your life, what tends to keep you from doing it? (busy-ness, not knowing any unbelievers, fear of rejection, etc.)
7. If Jesus is very concerned about having more people follow Him, and based on your answers to the previous couple of questions, would you say that you and Jesus value the same things?
8. How do you feel about the subject of the next series “First Comes Love”?



9. Is there anyone in your life, including yourself, who might benefit from what the Bible says about love, marriage, and parenting?

// Challenge

Jim spoke some hard truth and big challenges this week, especially to people who have called themselves Christians for a while. As a member of a group, you probably fall in that category, though I'm sure there are some exceptions. Jim challenged us to think about someone in our lives who would benefit from applying what the Bible has to say about love, marriage, and parenting, and then invite them to tune in to service next weekend (or attend with you starting October 4th). If we, as Christians, are really going to adhere to what the Bible says is true, then aligning our values with the values of Jesus is crucial. Are you willing to take a step to align your life with the values of Jesus by inviting someone you know and care about, who would absolutely benefit if they were to decide to follow Jesus, to come and see?



Student Group Discussion Questions
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// Parent Resource

Find some time in the car, at a meal, or halftime of the Nuggets game to tell your student the story of why you follow Jesus and the difference He has made in your life.

// Student Questions

1. What is the funniest Tik Tok, meme, or YouTube Video that a friend shared with you?
2. What has been a great deal you have let your friends in on?
3. What has Jesus done for you?
How has Jesus helped you in 2020?
4. Read John 1:38-46 (read it more than once or parts of it more than once if needed)
Who is this story about?
What are the people in this story doing?
Why are they doing it?
5. Do you think Jesus is worth sharing with someone you know?
Who is a friend you have who needs hope?
6. Who could you invite to program or the next fun event?
7. When you pray at the end of group, pray for the friend they mention to come and see.

// Leader Feedback

Please let us know how these questions went over in your group. Email your answers to caleb_flowers@flatironschurch.com

- What was good?
- What was bad?
- What was confusing?