

But Where Is He Going?

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- Focus** God wants us to have the perspective of reaching out to the lost. Jesus says to us, “Follow Me.” And we must respond, “Yes, Lord.” But there is one question we fail to ask: “Where is He going?” We need to ask where Jesus is going because wherever He ends up is where we will end up if we are faithful in following Him.
- Fun** Do you have a special talent, a favorite hobby, or interesting collection you have curated? Can you touch your tongue to your nose, or do you have a double-jointed finger? Can you do impersonations of famous people? Share with the group!
- Review** Key Scriptures: Matthew 4:18–19; Luke 15:4

1. Three Parables of Lost Things

In the parables of the lost coin, the prodigal son, and the good shepherd, something is in the wrong place, something is in the right place, and there is a person representing God. In each of these parables, God focuses completely on the thing in the wrong place. The answer to the question, “Where is He going?” is that Jesus is going to find that which is lost. Jesus looks at us and says, “Follow Me to seek and save that which is lost.”

2. Closely Follow Jesus

When we follow Jesus, our life will be all about reaching the lost. God often calls us to step outside our comfort zones to find that which is lost. We know the Holy Spirit is with us and can step confidently out of our comfort zone. When we do, God does great things. When we follow Jesus, we will be like John Harper, who didn’t stay in the lifeboat. Instead, he remained on the Titanic to warn others. With his last breath he called out, “Believe in Jesus Christ, and you will be saved.” When we have faith and dare to believe the Holy Spirit is with us, it will give us boldness to step out and do great things for God.

Group Dynamics Idea Autumn is the perfect time for a group potluck at the park. Plan a time where each person brings their favorite food, and have a meal together. Be creative! Encourage everyone to bring their favorite outdoor game or activity to share. Have fun playing together and building relationships. Use this time as an outreach by inviting new people and those who have never been to church.

Discuss

1. What is the difference between living in our comfort zone versus living to reach the lost?
2. How does having faith that the Holy Spirit is with you help give you boldness to reach out to the lost and be a witness for God?
3. Can you think of a time the Holy Spirit prompted you to step out boldly and to pray for someone or to invite them to church or small group? Share your experience.
4. What are some comfort zones we often have that can be hard for us to step out of? What would it look like if you stepped out of your comfort zone to share Jesus with someone?
5. Oftentimes God is leading us to step out and be a light to others. What can hinder us from shining our light and being bold for God?
6. Is there a lost son or daughter that you know about? How can you welcome them back?
7. If there is an area in your life where you feel like you are fleeing on a lifeboat instead of staying behind and saying believe in the Lord Jesus Christ? Take a moment to repent and to recommit your life and your direction to follow Jesus.

Take Home

As we conclude, remember the following:

- Choose to follow Jesus.
- Ask “Where is He going?” and then follow Him.
- Step out of your comfort zone to reach others.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, we thank You for the promise of the Holy Spirit. Thank You that You will never leave us and never forsake us. Please give us the faith and confidence to know You are always by our side and we can follow You. We ask

for boldness to step out of our comfort zones and bring Your Kingdom on this earth. In Jesus' name, Amen.

New Leader Tip Encourage your group to be aware of others around them who are lonely or going through a difficult time. Encourage them to boldly pray for anyone struggling and to invite them to group, to church, or to the group's potluck meal. This is a way to follow Jesus as we reach out to the lost.