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#### They were everyday people. . .

...the sort of people one might encounter in the marketplace, the workplace, or the neighborhood: tradesmen, soldiers, teachers, housewives. People living common, unremarkable lives. But the ordinary turned to the extraordinary when they crossed paths with a man named Jesus.

In this twelve-part study, you'll meet a handful of these privileged individuals. You'll discover that they were not much different than you and your friends. Yet their lives took on new meaning and significance once they encountered the Savior.

Their experience can be yours. Just as they were called to meet Jesus by divine appointment, so you can experience His grace, His love, His power, His rebuke—whatever your need happens to be.

There are four important reasons for pursuing this study:

- (1) <u>First-hand knowledge of the life of Christ.</u> You may be generally familiar with His life, but now you'll gain an in-depth understanding that comes from exploring His life in detail.
- (2) The incidents you'll look at really happened. You'll discover how refreshingly human the Scriptures are, and how their lessons are true-to-life.
- (3) <u>Jesus' life is compelling and attractive</u>. As the leaders of His day admitted, "Never did a man speak the way this man speaks" (John 7:46).
- (4) <u>Jesus is our model.</u> God says that He has "predestined us to be conformed to the image of His Son" (Romans 8:29). By looking at Jesus, we can catch a glimpse of what God has in mind.

Are you ready for an exciting series of studies? You're about to discover what it means to walk and talk with Jesus!

# Week Introduction

## Let's get acquainted!

Week	Торіс	Purpose
1	Introduction	Get acquainted.
2	The First Disciples  John 1:35-51  Mark 1:14-20; 2:13-14  Matthew 4:12-13, 17-22  Mark 3:15-18	Jesus calls people to follow Him.
3	The Curious Leader: Nicodemus John 3:1-21	Jesus invites inquiry as to who He is.
4	The Woman at the Well John 4:4-42	Jesus presents himself as the Messiah.
5	The Man Let Down Through the Roof Luke 5:17-26 Matthew 9:2-6 Mark 2:1-12	Jesus has authority to forgive sins.
6	The Centurion's Servant Luke 7:1-10 Matthew 8:5-13	Jesus has authority to heal, and is amazed at faith.
7	The Two Women of Bethany: Mary and Martha Luke 10:41–42	Jesus deals with worry and putting first things first.
8	The Disciples in the Storm  Mark 14:22-33; 6:45-57  John 6:15-21	Jesus sets up a laboratory of faith.
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9	The Rich Man Matthew 19:16-24 Mark 10:17-24 Luke 18:18-30	Jesus explains what ultimately matters.
10	The Tax Collector: Zaccheus Luke 19:1-10	Jesus shows no partiality.
11	The Synagogue Ruler: Jairus Luke 8:40–56 Matthew 9:18–26 Mark 5:22–43	Jesus shows His power over death.
12	The Disciple Who Denied Jesus: Peter Matthew 26:69-75 Mark 14:66-72 Luke 22:54-62 John 18:15-18; 25-26	Jesus allows faith to be tested.

## Week The First Disciples

#### Jesus calls people to follow Him.

For background, read:

- · John 1:35-51 (The first meeting Jesus has with four of the disciples)
- Mark 1:14-20; 2:13-14 (The first call)

Matthew 4:12-13, 17-22

· Mark 3:13-19 (The final selection of the twelve)

To understand more about the context, see:

- · Matthew 4:18-22
- Mark 3:7-19
- · Luke 5:17-32)
- (1) From what you know in general about these men. . .
  - · What did they have in common?
  - · What were their differences?

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- (2) According to these verses, what did Jesus call these men to do?
- (3) Luke 6:12 says that Jesus spent the entire night in prayer before He selected the Twelve. Why did He do that?
- (4) If you were launching a worldwide movement, would you have chosen these men?
  - · Why?
  - · Why not?



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