

Our Purpose

Week of May 1, 2016

These discussion questions can be used the week following the message. You can use these questions for personal growth and development, or as a guide for your Connect Group discussions.

Share Your Experience This Week #SevernRun

Message Recap: Read Matthew 9:35-10:16

We at The Church at Severn Run have our purpose-to reach as many people as possible by creatively revealing the *love* of the Father through the life of the Son in the power of the Spirit! But what about yours? Is it one and the same? As a member of the Body of Christ, as a Jesus-Follower, we must follow Jesus' example. We all have the purpose of sharing the message of Christ. So instead of asking ourselves what our purpose is, perhaps we should be asking what we are doing to fulfill our inspired purpose. There are a lot of worldly things that can get in the way, but the truth is these are just excuses that we create for ourselves to feel secure in our own insecurity. We need to be more like Jesus. He was God-inspired. When he saw brokenness he never turned away from it; in fact, he RAN to it!

Pray

Lord, prepare our hearts for the words that you would speak to us today. Let our ears hear what it is that we need to hear, and let our minds accept that you are in control. We realize that we are broken, but that you have healed that brokenness by your sacrifice. Help us show those who are broken the healing that they can find in you.

Getting Started

- When was the last time that you were inspired by something (other than God)?
- What did you do with that inspiration? How long did it last?

Listening Deeply

- 1. When was the last time you were inspired by God? How long did THAT last? What did you do?
- 2. Have you ever made a promise out of inspiration that you did not keep? If so, why?
- 3. Did you ever feel God's call of inspiration and ignore it? What was your excuse?
- 4. Share a time where you felt God's inspiration and acted on it. What happened from your actions?
- 5. What are some "God callings" in your life right now that you know you have yet to answer?
- 6. How can the group members help you with getting past the barriers keeping you from acting on God's calling?

Living Wide in Jesus

Jesus is the perfect example of what we should strive for. We know that we will ultimately fall short, but if we don't ever shoot for the target then there's absolutely no chance of hitting it. But, if we take a chance, we must just surprise ourselves. Jesus doesn't want our excuses. He doesn't want what we don't have. All he asks for is everything we've got, no matter how small it may seem to us. Strive to feel his inspiration in your life and don't be afraid to heed his call!

- Resolve to let go of excuses, no matter what they might be.
- Accept God's calling in your life. Let him lead, you follow!
- Keep your eyes open for brokenness, and when you see it, ACT! ...just like Jesus did.

Go and creatively reveal the love of the Father through the life of the Son in the power of the Spirit!