

March 17, Small Group Study- Marginalized- Scott Lanigan

1. COMMUNITY (*creating and atmosphere of unity, openness and love*)

Take a few moments around the room, and share your most memorable moment from Jan 1, 2013 until today. What was it, and why is it memorable?

2. ADORATION (*understanding who God is*)

Spend the next few minutes reading Psalm 136:1-12 & 26 as a group. One person reading the verses, and the group responding with "His Love endures forever". Take some time to talk about what you experienced. What pictures come to mind of God (what he is like)? The phrase "His love endures forever" was mentioned several times. Why? How does that relate to our lives today? To your workplace? School? Community?

3. NURTURE (*sharing God's truth together*)

"We aren't supposed to just do justice; we're supposed to become just."—Ken Wytsma (President of Kilns College, Founder of The Justice Conference)

"The grass is greener on the other side. When you see the greener grass over there, it is the Holy Spirit telling you to water the grass you are standing on."—Eugene Cho (Co-founder & Visionary, One Day's Wages)

"God is in the business of loving people back to life."—Shane Claiborne (Bestselling Author, Prominent Christian Activist)

"My ministry will not be motivated by my own pain but the pure joy and victory that comes from trusting Jesus."—Chai Ling (Founder, All Girls Allowed)

Read the above quotes to the group. Consider them as you work through the next few passages. (Feel free and take some time to discuss the quotes if you wish)

The New Testament highlights a 3 ½ year window of Jesus' ministry. The following passages give a snapshot of what he purposed to do.

Luke 9:1-6 (Backpacked around the country)

John 2:1-11 (Went to parties)

Mark 6:35-44 (Engaged multitudes of people)

Mark 1:23-31 (Performed miracles)

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Jesus was deliberate about what He did, but He knew that He could not do it alone. So He did something that He has been trying to do for the last 2000 years - recruit followers. People who would model their life upon His and totally commit themselves to "going" out for God and His ways.

4. Read and talk about the following 2 passages:

John 1:35-42 & Matthew 4:18-22

How can you, replicate what Jesus did here, today? What does that look like?

5. WHAT NOW? (*Applying God's truth*)

Think of how quickly the disciples followed Christ – it said they went immediately.

How quick are you when it comes to obeying God?

Are you actively, intentionally looking and listening to his voice each day? Places for you to engage, speak up, share hope.

What can you do as a Small Group over the next few weeks or months to focus on the margins – to serve others?

What steps can you (individually) take this week to incorporate listening for God's voice in your daily activities?

6. PRAY

Thank God for choosing to use you and your story. Pray for Kelowna, your work places, people who need to experience hope in the margins.