

Discussion Questions: Focus What? – Inviting people to join us – John 1:35-42

Drawn from the September 15, 2024 sermon by Dr. Jeff Chandler

Opener: Think of a person you would like to invite to SCC. What aspects of what we do are most attractive to others and something they might like to join?

The SCC Missions statement reads: *Responding to God's love by inviting people to join us as we become more like Jesus.*

Today's study will help us to determine our response to God's love by engaging with the people around us. Ask someone to read John 1:35-42

What is our response to God's love?

A. Seek

When he [John the Baptist] saw Jesus passing by, he said, "Look, the Lamb of God!" When the two disciples heard him say this, they followed Jesus. Turning around, Jesus saw them following and asked, "What do you want?" John 1:36-38

1. If Jesus turned to you today and asked, "What do you want?," how would you respond?

2. How would you describe what it means to "follow Jesus" in your own words?

In Matthew 7:7 Jesus promises *"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you."*

3. In thinking about that person you talked about in the opening question, what do you think they are seeking from Jesus?

B. Bring

The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, "We have found the Messiah" (that is, the Christ). And he brought him to Jesus. John 1:41-42

4. In John 1:39, Jesus told Andrew to "Come and See", and now he was convinced that Jesus was the Messiah. What did you see in Jesus that convinced you?
5. Has your enthusiasm for what you have seen and heard turned into any invitations to others to experience Jesus? if so, what happened?

C. Enter the Zone of the Unknown

Jesus encourages his followers, in John 15, "*I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.*"

6. Have you ever sensed the leading of the Spirit to "walk across the room" and engage with a person? What made it a "God moment"?
7. What is your greatest hesitation in leaving the "comfort zone"? In the times you've done this and ventured out, how have you found adventure, new friendships and a closer relationship with Jesus?

