

To Be Like Jesus

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SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Based on the message by Pastor Mirek Hufton

1. SERMON RECAP

Pastor Mirek Hufton opened with Colossians 1:28-29 to establish what he called the number one goal of every believer's life -- to become like Jesus Christ. He walked through the Gospels to show how Jesus repeatedly called people with those two simple words, "Follow me," and how each person who responded had to leave something behind to draw closer to him. He challenged the group to understand that Christian maturity is not measured by success or status, but by how closely our character, purity, and motives are aligned with the person of Jesus.

2. KEY SCRIPTURE

Colossians 1:28-29 (NKJV)

"Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus. To this end I also labor, striving according to His working which works in me mightily."

3. ICE BREAKER

Think of someone in your life -- past or present -- who reminded you of Jesus in the way they acted or treated people. Without using their name if you prefer, what was one specific thing about them that stood out?

4. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Question 1 -- Understanding the Goal

Pastor Mirek declared that becoming like Jesus is "El Numero Uno" -- the single overarching goal of the Christian life, ahead of career, ministry success, or even church involvement. How does that priority challenge or reorder the way you personally think about your day-to-day decisions?

Question 2 -- The Cost of "Follow Me"

He pointed out that Jesus said "Follow me" at least 21 times in the Gospels, and that each person who

responded had to drop something to do it -- a fishing net, a tax collector's booth, a familiar way of life. What is one thing in your own life that you sense Jesus asking you to lay down in order to follow him more closely right now?

Question 3 -- Purity as a Foundation

Pastor Mirek shared that the foundation of Jesus's character is purity -- pure motives, pure words, pure actions -- and that 1 John 3:3 connects our hope in Christ directly to the pursuit of purity. Why do you think impurity tends to create distance in our relationship with God, and where have you personally experienced that dynamic?

Question 4 -- Warning and Correction

He explained that the word "warn" in Colossians 1:28 carries the meaning of putting things back in order, correction, and admonition. Pastor Mirek was honest that many people resist correction because of insecurity, yet he argued that openness to correction is essential to growth. How do you personally respond when the Word of God or a trusted believer brings correction your way? What makes it easier or harder to receive?

Question 5 -- Letting Jesus Get Big

Pastor Mirek spent time reflecting on Colossians 1:15-17, slowing down to let the majesty and greatness of Jesus sink in -- Creator of all things, Sustainer of all things, before all things. He said, "If you have a pygmy Jesus, you'll have pygmy believers." In what ways does a small or shrunk-down view of Jesus affect the way we live for him practically?

Question 6 -- Proverbs 1:23 and the Promise

He closed with Proverbs 1:23, which promises that if we turn at God's rebuke, He will pour out His Spirit and make His words known to us. Pastor Mirek connected purity of heart directly to the depth of revelation a person receives from God. As a group, discuss this idea: does a surrendered, correctable heart actually open us up to hearing God more clearly? Has anyone experienced this personally?

5. APPLICATION CHALLENGE

This week, identify one specific area -- a habit, a relationship, a pattern of thought, or a type of content you consume -- that you sense is creating distance between you and Jesus. Write it down privately. Then take one concrete step to address it: confess it to God in prayer, make one phone call, block one account, remove one app, or set one boundary. Come back next week ready to share, as much as you are comfortable, what that step was and what it cost you.

6. PRAYER POINTS

- Pray that each group member would develop a genuine, deep hunger to become like Jesus -- not just to be a better person, but to be conformed to his image as Romans 8:29 describes.
- Pray for openness and humility across the group to receive correction from the Word and from trusted

brothers and sisters, and that insecurity would not be a barrier to growth.

- Pray for real purity of heart in the congregation -- in motives, in words, in what members allow into their minds -- and that this purity would open the door to a deeper experience of God's presence and revelation.

7. MEMORY VERSE

1 John 3:2-3 (NKJV)

"Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure."