



Check-In | 5–8 min

What are your students looking forward to the most this weekend? What goals do they have? How do they think this small group time should go? Are there specific rules for this time?

Modern Day Rabbis | Game | 3-5 min

In your bag you will find images of popular celebrities. There will be 6 of them. Tell your group that it is their job to order the celebrities from least amount of instagram followers to highest amount of instagram followers. The answer is below. Use this as a launch pad to talk about the types of celebrities or “rabbis” that people follow today. Ask, why do you think people follow those kinds of “rabbis?”

Highest to Lowest: Ronaldo (650 million followers), Lionel Messi (500 million followers), Selena Gomez (415 million followers), Kylie Jenner (390 million followers), The Rock (385 million followers), and Ariana Grande (370 million followers).

Memorize, Sacrifice, Meditate, Identify, and Imitate | Group Commitment | 8–10 min

Any kind of follower will memorize, sacrifice, meditate, identify, and imitate whoever they are following. Where do you see examples of this among your peers? What is something that you and your students should follow Jesus in? As a group establish a group of scripture that you will **Memorize**.

Next, ask your group, How will we **Sacrifice**, in order to follow Jesus in this particular area? Will it be fasting? Will it be waking up early to pray? Will it be your comfortability? Will you do something hard?

Then ask, How will we **Meditate** on what Jesus wants to teach us? Will we study our bible during lunch? Will we study before we go to bed? Will we join a group call to study together?

Next ask, How will we **Identify** as a follower of Jesus? How will people know that we follow Jesus?

Finally ask, What action will we take to **Imitate** Jesus? How will we practically follow him as a group?

Weighed Down | Illustration | 8–10 min

Tell your students that they are going to participate in a pushup contest. Have two students volunteer to see who can do 10 pushups the fastest. Once they are both set up, pause and bring a small student to lay on the back of one of the contestants. Then tell them to start!

Oftentimes, a new experience can be frightening. It means leaving behind what is comfortable and familiar for the unknown. Jesus meets Peter when he comes back from fishing. By calling Peter to Follow Him, Peter had to leave his job behind. What do you need to leave behind in order to follow Jesus?

Jesus is Pursuing You | Prayer Experience | 5-8 min

This experience is designed to be a Lectio Divina prayer experience. Begin time in prayer asking that God would speak to you and your group. Then read Luke 15:1-7 deliberately. After you have read the passage once, ask your group if there was a word or phrase that stood out to them.

Next, read the passage again, deliberately and slowly. Encourage your group to consider this question while listening to the passage. "What in my life needed to hear this word today?"

Again, read the passage. Encourage students to listen for a challenge they might be receiving as they listen to the passage. Finally, read the passage one more time. End the experience with silent prayer that the message each student received would take root in their lives.

Jesus Connection | Main Takeaway | 2–3 min

Peter found himself overlooked for most of his life. He was rejected by the rabbis of his day. And yet, when Jesus found Peter he said, "I choose you." Jesus still says that today. The God of the universe chooses each and every one of us. Wherever your students are today, let them know that Jesus chooses them. He values them. He loves them.