

# **Community Group Material:**

Bible Reading: John 1:35-51

Ask one person to pray at the beginning of your meeting.

#### Check-in

Check in with each other about how everyone is doing.

Bible Reading: John 1:35-51

## **Sermon Summary:**

John's gospel records the first encounter that Jesus' followers had with him. This account narrates different people, different ways in which they react to Jesus, as well as different responses to their first encounter with Jesus. Everyone's initial response to meeting Jesus may be different and incomplete. As time goes on and we get to know and experience different aspects of who Jesus is, we have a progressive revelation of him. We continually see greater things than we did before. John invites the readers of his gospel to encounter Jesus by giving a narrative of some of His first followers. Encountering Jesus is necessary in order to follow Him long term. We all need continuous encounters with Jesus as we journey with him.

#### Discussion:

1. List the different responses that the disciples had upon meeting Jesus for the first time.

- 2. What were the different factors that led to these encounters?
- 3. Consider the interaction between Philip and Nathanael. What does their interaction show us regarding our interactions with sceptics? Discuss the different kinds of people you know and how you would interact with them regarding Jesus.
- 4. What was your first impression of Jesus when you first met him? What led to that encounter?
- 5. What additional things have you seen since that time?
- 6. Consider people you know that no longer follow Jesus but seemed to in the past. What might be some factors for them to no longer follow Jesus? Discuss without being overly judgmental.
- 7. Why is it so crucial that we encounter Jesus not only initially but continually?

## **End with Prayer:**

- Pray for those you want to have an encounter with Jesus.
- Pray for each other that we would have continual encounters with Jesus.