

#### **Sermon Outline**

#### **Key verses**

Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.<sup>25</sup> For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it.

Matthew 16:24-25

# What happens when you decide to follow Jesus?

1. He gives you a new identity

Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.

John 1:12

2. He sends you out on mission

"Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people."

Matthew 4:19

3. He makes you whole

May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless.

1 Thessalonians 5:23

## **FOLLOW JESUS**

APRIL 21 DISCUSSION GUIDE

#### **Opening Thought**

We all follow someone or something... It could be a parent, sibling, athlete, musician, or anyone else that we watch throughout life and look to emulate ourselves after. Oftentimes, it becomes how we define ourselves. But when we trade our old life for a new life in Christ we receive a new identity, and we live on mission for him. We are invited to go all in on following Jesus!

#### Ice breakers

- Without looking it up, can you say MCA's vision statement?
- What hidden talent do you have?

### **Dig Deeper**

- What stood out to you from the sermon?
- When meeting someone, how do you typically describe yourself? (what defines you?)
- Have you heard Jesus calling you to follow him? How? What was he calling you to? Share about it.
- God speaks through his Word. Can you recall specific Bible passages where you knew he was speaking to you?
- What might it mean for you to be sent out on mission for Jesus?
- What is it about Jesus that makes you want to follow him?
- Read James 2:14-17. What can we learn from these verses about living out our faith?
- What do you feel like your next step is in following Jesus?

#### Closing prayer

Lord, thank you for leading the way and for inviting us to follow you. Give us courage for the journey and strength to persevere. Help us to accept our new identity as your beloved sons and daughters. Send us out to fish for people and transform us into the people you want us to be.