



## Week 2 (January 15-21): Lesson Guide

*Open in prayer*

*Welcome/Introductions*

*Recall the guidelines together. Ask: "What is the purpose of the guidelines?" Answer: To be relational!*

**Hook Question:** When did you invest time & energy into something, but later learned you wasted your time?

**Ask a group member to retell last week's story** (*the baptism of Jesus*).

**Ask someone from your team to read or tell the following background for the story:**

Our series on the local church is also a series on teamwork. The local church is a team working together to complete the mission Jesus has assigned to us. The mission is a team oriented mission, and it can only be completed as we work together. Each of us must decide that we are going to be good team players if we are going to accomplish Jesus' mission for our lives and our group together – or we will waste our time.

A good team player has the right mission. Our story today takes place shortly after the baptism of Jesus. Shortly after Jesus was baptized, John the Baptist was arrested because he boldly spoke the truth to a king (one of the Herodias) about his immorality. After being tempted by Satan in the wilderness, Jesus moved His ministry to a town called Capernaum near the Sea of Galilee. This town would become the new home base of Jesus, and Jesus spent most of His ministry time around the Sea of Galilee. It was from this area that Jesus called His first disciples. When He called His disciples, Jesus shared with them their mission. Listen carefully to this story and be ready to rebuild it together when we finish. This is where our story begins...

**Tell the story from Matthew 4:17-23**

**Rebuild the story** – (*group members retell the story based on what they remember*)

**Read Matthew 4:17-23** – (*ask the group to read these verses*)

**Discuss these questions:**

Head  
Questions:  
Quicker  
tempo.

- What do you like or dislike about this story? What stands out to you?
- What does this story teach us about people?
- What does this story teach us about God?
- What did Jesus promise His disciples when He called them to follow Him? (verse 19)

Heart Questions:  
Slow down & wait!

- Based on this story, what should the purpose or mission of this group be as we seek to follow Jesus together?
- Why are we most effective in the mission when we work as a team?

Action  
Lines

- What do you need to change to be a better team player when it comes to our group's mission?
- Be a team player! Who could you invite to be part of this group?
- Practice sharing Jesus! Who can retell this week's Bible story to our group?

**Series Memory Verse:** 1 Peter 3:8 - Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind.

**Ask for a volunteer to tell the Bible story next week. (Consider having your apprentice facilitate.)**

*Prayer: Spend time in prayer. Ask people to limit their prayer request to their own personal needs.*