

Small Group Discussion Guide: Imitating Jesus and Embracing Risk

Opening Prayer

Begin with a prayer, asking God to open your hearts and minds to His Word and to guide your discussion.

Icebreaker

- Share a time when you took a risk, big or small. How did it turn out, and what did you learn from the experience?

Scripture Reading

Read Matthew 14:22-33 together.

Discussion Questions

1. Understanding Risk in Faith

- What stood out to you the most from the story of Peter walking on water?
- How do you define "risk" in the context of your faith journey?

2. Humbly Trusting in God's Control

- Peter got out of the boat and took a step towards Jesus. What does it mean to humbly trust in God's control in your own life?
- Can you share a situation where you had to trust God despite not knowing the outcome?

3. Value Based in God's Worthiness

- How does understanding that your value is based in God's worthiness, not your own abilities or successes, change your perspective on taking risks?

- Reflect on a time when you felt like you failed. How did you see God's worthiness and your value in Him during that time?

4. Seeking Wisdom in Decision-Making

- Peter asked Jesus to command him to come on the water. How do you seek God's guidance before making decisions, especially risky ones?

- What are some practical ways you can pray for wisdom in your current circumstances?

5. Jesus' Ultimate Risk for Us

- How does Jesus' ultimate sacrifice and risk for our eternal life inspire you to take risks for His kingdom?

- In what areas of your life is God calling you to step out in faith, even if it feels risky?

6. Personal Reflection and Application

- Are you currently experiencing a crisis of belief or a call to take a risk? What is God asking you to do?

- What is one step you can take this week to look to Jesus and take the next step in faith?

Group Activity

- Break into smaller pairs or triads and share one area where you feel God is calling you to take a risk. Pray for each other, asking for courage, wisdom, and trust in God's control.

Closing Reflection

- Reflect on the statement: "A fully equipped disciple is willing to be obedient despite popular opinion and invites others into audacious and risky faith." How can this be a guiding principle in your life?

Closing Prayer

End with a prayer, thanking God for His guidance and asking for the strength to take the next step in faith, trusting in His control and worthiness.