



You're Coming With | Ethan Matott | 11.7.21
Weekly Study

START

To get things started, go around the circle and answer the following questions:

What was the best conversation you had this week?

SHARE

Welcome back to Week Five of Starter Pack! We've finally reached the last week of our devotional. Before we dive into this week's content, take a few minutes to talk about how this 35-Day Devotional has gone by answering these questions:

Which week stuck out to you the most from Starter Pack? Why?

Are there any exercises from the book you want to implement into your life moving forward? If so, which one? What did you like about it?

GROW

John 1:35-42

What do you know about this passage? What is happening at the beginning of John's Gospel?

This week, Ethan talked about how important it is to invite people to follow Jesus.

When Jesus began his ministry, his first step was to bring a whole bunch of people along for the journey. In those days, Rabbis (or teachers) would only invite the best and brightest teachers to become disciples. But Jesus was different. He asked fishermen, tax collectors, and zealots to be a part of his team.

In other words, his invitation was open to everyone. He didn't need anyone to meet a certain level of holiness or intelligence to merit an invitation. With Jesus, everyone who wanted a spot at the table got one.

As followers of Jesus, we should be doing the same thing!

What are your feelings about inviting people to church? Does it excite you? Intimidate you? Scare you? Where do you think those feelings came from?

Who is one person in your life you would love to see start following Jesus?

M O V E

John 1:43-51

What did you notice about the way Philip invited Nathaniel? What can we learn from his tactic?

Inviting people to learn more about Jesus can feel really intimidating. But as Ethan talked about this week, we don't have to overcomplicate it. We can break this process down into three simple steps:

Step 1: Care Deeply

The starting point for Phillip's invitation was care. He genuinely loved Nathaniel and cared about how he was doing. We often skip this step and invite people without first getting to know them. And then we are surprised when they don't take us up on the offer.

Compassion and genuine friendship make invitations a lot more natural. Theodore Roosevelt once said, "People don't care how much you know until they know how much you care."

Step 2: Invite Confidently

When it comes time to invite someone to church, be confident. Inviting can be scary, but the *good* news is, we aren't sharing *bad* news. Our job is simply to remind people that God loves them and has a plan for their life. Remember, showing up is your job. Everything else is up to God!

Step 3: Pray Boldly

The final step is to start praying. A piece of this process is on us, but a lot of it is on God. As Paul said, "I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow" (1 Corinthians 3:6).

Which of those three steps comes the most naturally to you? Why do you think that is?

Which of those three steps is the biggest challenge for you? Why do you think that is?

Who is one person you are going to invite to baptism on Sunday? Have you reached out to them yet? Take a moment and pray for that person as a Group.

P R A Y

We need prayer now more than ever. Spend some time-sharing prayer requests. If you are in a coed group, consider breaking off into two separate groups (or calls if you are an online group) to share more freely.

T O G O

“Come,” he replied, “and you will see.”

- *John 1:39*