

NAZARETH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

QUESTIONS Jesus Asked

QUESTIONS FROM THE ONE WHO KNOWS US BEST

July 12, 2026

“A Question About Our Resources: Group Leader Guide”

{Pastor Tim Boettger}

Sermon Recap

The sermon centers on how Jesus challenges people—and His own disciples—to move beyond a purely practical, “meet the immediate need” mindset and into faith that depends on God’s greater purposes and resources.

The speaker contrasts two crowds: one that followed Jesus mainly for what they could get (like free food) and Jesus’ call to seek something deeper—the “true bread from heaven,” which is ultimately Jesus Himself, the One who gives life to the world. Jesus refuses to let faith be reduced to a social program or to satisfying physical cravings; He invites people into the spiritual and supernatural reality of who He is.

Against the backdrop of Mark 6:30–43, the disciples return from their first ministry assignment tired and emotionally spent, especially with the tension of John the Baptist’s brutal death in the air. Jesus shows Himself as a good shepherd who cares about both serving and resting, inviting them to withdraw and recover. Yet the crowds arrive first, and Jesus responds with compassion because they are “like sheep without a shepherd.” Even when He and the disciples need rest, His heart is moved by lost and leaderless people.

As the day grows late, the disciples present a sensible plan: send the crowd away so they can buy food. But Jesus interrupts their pragmatic thinking with a stretching command: “You give them something to eat.” The main point is that God often disrupts our reasonable plans to expand our faith. Jesus is training “rookie” disciples to stop assuming limitations based on what they can see and calculate, and instead to trust that God can work through them beyond what they think their resources allow.

Using the image of new wine and new wineskins, the sermon emphasizes that Jesus brings something new that cannot be contained by old, rigid ways of thinking. The call is to let God renew our mindset, refuse a “crusty” faith limited by common sense alone, and be willing to serve compassionately when Jesus asks—even when we feel tired, inadequate, or under-resourced—because His plans are often bigger than ours.

But He answered them, “You give them something to eat.” Sometimes God has far bigger plans for us than we’ve ever thought of or dreamed of.

Discussion Questions

How do you recognize when you are seeking Jesus mainly for what He can provide rather than for who He is, and what helps you shift from “loaves” to real communion with Him?

It can show up when your prayers and expectations center on immediate relief, comfort, or outcomes more than worship and surrender. Discuss what practices help you re-center—gratitude, confession of mixed motives, time in Scripture, and asking Jesus to be your “true bread” before asking for what you want.

What does it look like in your life to hold both rest and ministry together the way Jesus did with His disciples, and where do you tend to drift into imbalance?

Jesus invites His people to withdraw and be restored, yet He also responds compassionately when needs are urgent. Talk about personal warning signs of burnout or avoidance, and what rhythms—Sabbath, boundaries, shared responsibility, and saying no—help you serve from fullness rather than emptiness.

When Jesus says, “You give them something to eat,” what emotions or objections rise up in you, and what do those reactions reveal about your view of your resources and God’s power?

Many of us feel overwhelmed, inadequate, or frustrated because we instinctively measure the need against what we can control. Reflect on how God may be inviting you to bring what you have, trust Him with the gap, and expect Him to multiply obedience rather than reward self-sufficiency.

How does compassion for “sheep without a shepherd” change the way you see the people around you, and what might it cost you to respond with that kind of care?

Compassion moves people from being interruptions to becoming neighbors with real stories and spiritual hunger. Explore what specific sacrifices might be required—time, convenience, emotional energy, money, or reputation—and what helps you respond without resentment.

What “old wineskin” thinking might be limiting your faith right now, and how could God be stretching you into a new mindset or a bigger vision of what He can do through you?

Old wineskins can be rigid assumptions like “this is just how I am,” “that’s not my gift,” or “God won’t work here.” Share one area where God may be challenging your categories, and identify a next step that keeps you flexible—prayerful risk, learning, asking for help, or serving beyond your comfort zone.

Prayer 🙏

- May our hunger shift from merely having our needs met to receiving the true bread that gives life, letting spiritual desire guide daily choices.
- May we embrace a rhythm of serving and resting, honoring our limits while trusting that compassion can still lead us back into loving action when interrupted.
- May we notice the people around us who feel like sheep without a shepherd, choosing to respond with practical care and steady presence rather than indifference.
- May we bring what we have—however small—and offer it for God’s purposes, trusting that obedience can become abundance when we stop clinging to scarcity.
- May we let our old, rigid ways of thinking be stretched into new wineskins, welcoming God’s larger plans when they challenge our common sense and comfort.

June 28, 2026

“A Question About Our Desire for Freedom, Growth and Responsibility”- Group Leader Guide

{Pastor Tim Boettger}

Sermon Recap 🎬

The sermon centers on Jesus’ question to the man at the Pool of Bethesda in John 5: “Do you want to get well?” It explains the setting: many disabled people gathered around a pool believed to be stirred for healing, and the man had been sick for 38 years. Jesus notices him intentionally, showing that God is not random or careless in who He sees and how He acts.

The main point is that Jesus’ question is not just about physical healing, but about a person’s willingness to embrace a whole new life. Getting well would mean more than relief from

suffering—it would require new responsibilities, new risks, new skills, and even a new identity. Jesus is essentially asking, “Are you ready for the duties of being well? Are you ready to stop living from an old identity and step into a new chapter?”

The man’s response (“I have no one to help me... someone always gets in ahead of me”) is presented as a kind of smoke screen—an excuse that avoids facing the deeper issue of desire and readiness. Even so, Jesus cuts through the avoidance and commands him: “Get up! Pick up your mat and walk.” Sometimes, God lovingly overrules our hesitant “want-to,” pushing us into a new season we might fear, resist, or feel unprepared for.

The sermon applies this to everyone: God’s work in us is often about freedom, growth, maturity, and responsibility—not simply comfort. Like Caleb’s courageous spirit late in life, believers are called to keep changing, learning, serving, and taking faithful risks until the end. The church should be a community that encourages that kind of transformation—building one another up, bearing burdens, fanning faith into flame—rather than criticizing or holding people back.

Ultimately, the message is a personal challenge: Where have we become accustomed to our limitations, excuses, or old identities? And if Jesus calls us into greater freedom and healing, are we willing to accept not only the gift, but also the “more” that will be expected because of it?

“Sometimes God steps in and burrs us into a new chapter of life. Whether we wanted him to or not.”

Discussion Questions

How do you recognize when you’ve become so used to a situation that it quietly becomes part of your identity, and what might it look like to let God give you a new identity instead?

Long seasons can normalize pain, limitation, or passivity until they feel like “who I am” rather than “what I’m experiencing.” Discuss what labels you’ve carried (wounded, overlooked, dependent, stuck) and what practices or community support could help you step into a truer identity as someone being renewed by God.

What kinds of “smokescreens” or explanations do you tend to offer when Jesus’ question “Do you want to get well?” gets uncomfortably personal, and why do you think those responses feel safer than honesty?

The man’s focus on lacking help and others getting ahead can mirror our own reflexes: blaming circumstances, timing, or people to reduce pressure and avoid change. Explore what fears might sit underneath those defenses—fear of failure, disappointment, or being responsible for what happens next.

How do you think about the “cost of healing” or freedom—what new responsibilities, expectations, or risks might come with answered prayer in your life right now?

The sermon highlights that being made well isn't just relief; it can bring new duties, maturity, and accountability. Identify one area where you've prayed for change and then ask what obedience, discipline, reconciliation, or service might be required if God opens that door.

What does it look like for a group or church community to help people "pick up their mat and walk" rather than keep them dependent, criticized, or stuck in old patterns?

Healthy community fuels growth: encouragement, practical help, accountability, and celebrating steps forward without picking apart imperfect progress. Talk about specific ways your group can bear burdens while still calling one another into courage, responsibility, and new habits.

What are some moments when God has "overruled your want-to meter," and how did that intervention reshape your faith, maturity, or direction even if you felt uneasy at the time?

Sometimes God's kindness pushes us into a new chapter through a blessing, a disruption, or a hard turning point. Share examples and reflect on what you learned about God's intentionality, and what helped you move from reluctance to trust and action.

Prayer 🙏

- May we become honest about our desire for wholeness, noticing where our "want-to" has grown tired and choosing a next faithful step toward freedom.
- May we let go of excuses and smoke screens that keep us stuck, embracing the courage to receive change even when it alters our identity and routines.
- May we welcome the responsibilities that come with healing and growth, stewarding new strength with humility, service, and integrity.
- May we encourage one another to rise from familiar limitations, building each other up with practical support and shared accountability as we learn to walk in new ways.
- May we trust that God's direction is intentional, staying open when life pushes us into a new chapter and responding with willingness, risk-taking, and ongoing maturity.

June 21, 2026

"Questions the Calm Our Worried Souls Part 2" - Group Leader Guide

{Matt Reisetter}

Sermon Recap 🎬

Jesus' words in Matthew 7:7–11 ("ask, seek, knock") are often misunderstood as a promise that God will give anyone whatever they want if they just pray hard enough. The sermon warns that

this kind of thinking fuels the prosperity gospel, which is false and misrepresents God. When we isolate these verses from their context, we can end up believing God is a vending machine for our desires rather than a wise Father who gives what is truly good.

Jesus' point is not that earthly fathers always give their children exactly what they ask for. His point is that good fathers do not respond to good requests with something harmful. A child may ask for something specific, and a loving father might still say "no" or "not now," but he won't give something cruel in return. In the same way, God may not grant a particular request in the exact form or timing we want, but He will never answer His children with something evil or destructive.

The sermon connects this to real life pain and unanswered prayers, like Paul's "thorn in the flesh" and the many "thorns" people carry today—physical suffering, spiritual struggles, or broken relationships that God has not removed despite repeated requests. God's refusal is not proof of His absence or lack of care; it can be part of His wise and good purpose. God's grace is sufficient, and His power is often displayed most clearly through human weakness.

Practical examples help clarify the difference between a good gift and getting exactly what was requested: a father may deny expensive new cleats and provide used ones, may require responsibilities instead of recreation, or may forbid a dating relationship that isn't wise. The "no" is not hatred; it is protection and love shaped by greater knowledge.

The sermon also highlights two sobering truths from verse 11. First, Jesus bluntly calls His listeners "evil," pushing back against the idea that Jesus only affirms people—He tells the truth about humanity's natural condition and our need to be changed. Second, Jesus' promise is specifically for those who can truly call God "Father." The encouragement of this passage is for God's children: those who belong to Him can trust that, whatever God allows or withholds, He will always give what is genuinely good.

We can trust God to give his children good gifts, always.

Discussion Questions

How have your expectations of prayer been shaped by culture, past church experiences, or personal disappointment, and what might need to change in light of Jesus' picture of a Father who gives good gifts (not necessarily the exact gifts requested)?

Many of us assume that "ask, seek, knock" guarantees a specific outcome, but Jesus emphasizes the Father's goodness more than our control. Reflect on where you've treated prayer like a transaction and how shifting toward trust in God's wisdom could reshape your prayers and your peace.

What is a "thorn in the flesh" you're carrying right now, and how have you seen (or struggled to see) God's grace being sufficient in that weakness?

Naming the thorn helps move the conversation from abstract theology to real life—health, relationships, anxiety, temptation, or ongoing hardship. Consider what it would look like to ask

God boldly while also trusting that His power can be displayed through endurance, support from others, or changed character even before circumstances change.

Why do you think Jesus intentionally calls His listeners “evil,” and how does taking sin seriously affect the way you hear promises about God as Father and giver of good gifts?

Jesus’ language confronts self-reliance and exposes that even decent parents are imperfect, yet still give real goodness. Let that contrast deepen your confidence in God’s purity and also your humility—seeing your need for rescue, not just improved circumstances.

What are some ways you’ve interpreted a “no” or “not yet” from God as rejection, and how might the sermon’s fatherhood examples help you reinterpret those moments as protection or wiser provision?

A delayed or denied request can feel like God is withholding, but the sermon highlights that good parenting often includes limits for loving reasons. Discuss practical markers of trust—continued prayer, obedience, patience, and seeking counsel—while acknowledging the emotional difficulty of waiting.

What does it practically mean for you to live as if God is truly your Father, and what steps might you take if you’re unsure whether this promise applies to you personally?

Jesus ties confidence in prayer to relationship, not entitlement; knowing God as Father changes how you approach Him and how you interpret His answers. If you feel unsure, explore what repentance, faith in Christ, and belonging to a church community would look like as concrete next steps rather than vague spirituality.

Prayer 🙏

- May we bring our specific needs and worries into prayer with persistence, trusting that seeking and knocking shapes our hearts even when outcomes differ from what we requested.
- May we release the expectation that faith guarantees our preferred results, choosing instead to trust that God gives good gifts that never harm us, even when the answer is “not yet” or “no.”
- May we learn to interpret disappointments through the lens of a wise and loving Father, receiving His guidance as protection and formation rather than rejection.
- May we surrender our “thorn in the flesh” places—physical, relational, or spiritual—so that weakness becomes a space where grace proves sufficient and strength is refined.
- May we reject manipulative or self-serving views of prayer and practice honest, Scripture-shaped asking that seeks God Himself more than comfort, control, or prosperity.

June 14, 2026

“Questions the Calm Our Worried Souls”- Group Leader Guide

{Pastor Tim Boettger}

Jesus often led people by asking questions, not just giving answers. The sermon highlights how Jesus was asked many questions, but He asked even more—because His questions are meant to draw out what is really in our hearts, especially when we are anxious, uncertain, or distracted.

One key moment comes as Jesus travels with His disciples and asks, “Who do people say that I am?” There was plenty of public chatter and mixed opinions about Jesus, so He invites conversation about what others believe. Then He turns the question personal and direct: “Who do you say that I am?” This shift matters because secondhand beliefs can’t sustain faith. Jesus presses each person to respond for themselves.

Peter answers with a clear confession: “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” In other words, Jesus is not merely a teacher or miracle worker—He is the promised Messiah and truly divine. That identity is central, because what we believe about Jesus shapes how we handle fear and worry.

But the sermon also notes that even after Peter’s strong statement, he struggles when Jesus explains that the Messiah must suffer, be rejected, die, and rise again. Peter resists that plan, and Jesus sharply corrects him—showing how easy it is to focus on human expectations rather than God’s purposes. The takeaway is that faith is not only saying the right words about Jesus; it is also learning to set our minds on “the things of God,” trusting His wisdom even when it challenges our preferences.

Connected to the theme “Questions to Calm Our Worried Souls” (Matthew 6:24–34), the message points us toward the practical outcome of Jesus’ questions: when we know who Jesus truly is and align our thinking with God’s priorities, we are better able to release anxiety, stop being ruled by competing loyalties, and trust the Father’s care day by day.

“Who do you say I am?”

Discussion Questions

How do the different voices around you (news, social media, friends, even your own inner dialogue) shape what you believe about who Jesus is, and what has helped you sort through those voices?

The sermon highlights that “chatter” about Jesus was everywhere, and Jesus drew it into conversation rather than ignoring it. Talking about which voices you trust most can reveal what

is forming your assumptions, fears, and hopes. Consider what practices (Scripture, community, prayer, silence) help you discern truth instead of just absorbing opinions.

What does it look like in your everyday life to answer Jesus' question, "Who do you say that I am?" in a way that goes beyond correct words and becomes a lived confession?

Peter gave a bold, accurate confession, yet the story shows that right words can still clash with God's purposes when fear or control takes over. Discuss where your actions, spending, time, and reactions reveal what you truly believe about Jesus' identity and leadership. Identify one area where you want your life to align more clearly with your confession.

What worries tend to dominate your attention right now, and how does Jesus' teaching in Matthew 6:24–34 challenge the reasons those worries feel so powerful?

Matthew 6 connects worry to what we serve and what we seek—money, security, approval, or control can quietly become masters. Naming specific worries helps the group see the deeper values underneath them. Reflect on how Jesus' invitation to seek God's kingdom first reframes what you believe you truly need.

Why do you think Jesus so often used questions instead of direct answers, and how might his question-based approach help calm a worried soul?

Questions create space for honesty and reveal what's really going on inside us—our motives, fears, and false assumptions. In anxious seasons, we often want quick fixes, but Jesus leads us toward deeper trust and re-ordered priorities. Share how a well-timed question has helped you slow down, see clearly, and return to God.

What is one practical way you could "seek first the kingdom" this week in the very area where you feel most anxious, and what would change if you actually did it?

Seeking first the kingdom can look like prayer before problem-solving, generosity when you feel scarcity, or obedience when you want control. The goal isn't denial of real needs but re-centering on God's care and leadership. Talk through one concrete step and what fears or habits might resist it—and how the group can support you.

Prayer 🙏

- May we quiet our anxious thoughts by naming what we are truly seeking, and then taking one concrete step today to follow the way of Christ in our choices and priorities.
- May we move beyond secondhand opinions and settle the question personally—who Jesus is to us—so our faith becomes a lived confession shaping how we speak, work, and love.
- May we set our minds on the things of God rather than the pressures and assumptions of people, practicing daily discernment that realigns our plans with God's kingdom.

- May we release worry about tomorrow by choosing trust and obedience today, seeking God's righteousness through small, faithful actions in our homes, workplaces, and relationships.
- May we remember and embody the hope announced in Christ's suffering and resurrection, letting gratitude and generosity become a steady response even in uncertain seasons.

June 7, 2026

“A Question of Identity and Belief”- Group Leader Guide

{Pastor Tim Boettger}

Sermon Recap

The sermon centers on one of Jesus' most personal and decisive questions: “Who do you say that I am?” In Mark 8:27–33, Jesus first asks his disciples what other people are saying about him, drawing out the many public opinions—John the Baptist, Elijah, or one of the prophets. Then Jesus moves from the “safer” question about public chatter to the direct question that demands a personal response.

Peter answers with a bold confession: Jesus is “the Christ” (the Messiah, the Anointed One) and “the Son of the living God.” The message emphasizes that this is not merely a compliment or a vague spiritual idea—it is a claim about Jesus' true identity and divine authority. Jesus affirms Peter in a unique way, showing how weighty and significant this confession is.

The sermon presses the point that everyone must answer Jesus' question personally. It is not enough to know what others think, or to hide behind general opinions. The preacher connects this to the call of the gospel: salvation is tied to confessing Jesus as Lord and believing the truth about him (referencing Romans 10:9). Refusing to believe is not neutral; it leaves a person still standing condemned.

The sermon also frames Jesus as deeply personal—one who asks questions that reveal what we are really seeking and what we truly believe, much like searching questions about honesty, integrity, and hidden sin. Jesus' question exposes whether we are simply curious, following the crowd, or truly convinced.

The message concludes by inviting listeners to respond sincerely during communion. Communion is presented as a participation in Jesus' sacrificial gift, meant for those who genuinely believe. People are encouraged not to “pretend” faith outwardly, but to honestly confess and believe if they sense God drawing them in. The final challenge is clear and

timeless: Jesus' question echoes through history, and each person must answer it for themselves—Who do you say that he is?

We all have to answer this question for ourselves. And Jesus is still echoing it down through history. Who do you say that I am?

Discussion Questions

How do the different voices around you (family, friends, culture, social media) shape what you assume about Jesus' identity, and what helps you separate public opinion from personal conviction?

The sermon highlights that Jesus first asks about the crowd's opinions and then presses for a personal answer. Discuss what "chatter" you've absorbed over time and where it has subtly set your expectations. Consider what practices (Scripture, prayer, community, honest questions) help you move from secondhand views to firsthand trust.

What do you think Jesus is really inviting when he asks, "Who do you say that I am?" and why might that question feel risky or personal for you today?

The question isn't just theological; it exposes trust, allegiance, and identity. It can feel risky because it confronts neutrality and surfaces what we actually believe deep down, not what we think we're supposed to say. Talk about what you fear might change if you answer honestly.

What are you looking for in the changes you're making right now (work, relationships, habits, spiritual life), and how does your answer connect to what you believe Jesus offers?

The sermon links Jesus' questions to motive: what we seek beneath our decisions and pursuits. Naming what you're looking for—security, approval, freedom, meaning—can reveal where you're expecting salvation to come from. Explore how Colossians 1 reframes Jesus as sufficient and central, not just helpful.

How does confession—saying out loud what you believe about Jesus—shape your daily choices, especially in the "small" integrity moments the sermon mentions (honesty, stealing, cutting corners, excuses)?

Romans 10:9 ties belief and confession together, and the sermon connects belief to real-life integrity. If Jesus is truly Lord, it reorders what we justify and what we repent of. Discuss where your confession feels strongest and where it's most challenged by convenience or pressure.

What does communion mean to you as a response to Jesus' identity, and what might it look like to participate with honesty rather than pretending or performing?

The sermon frames communion as receiving Jesus' sacrificial gift while taking seriously whether we truly trust him. That invites self-examination without shame, making space for genuine faith,

doubts, and repentance. Talk about what helps you approach communion as a moment of truth-telling and renewed surrender.

Prayer 🙏

- May we honestly examine the places we cut corners or hide, allowing integrity to become a daily practice that aligns with what we say we believe about Jesus.
- May we move beyond secondhand opinions and choose a personal, lived confession of who Jesus is, letting that belief shape our priorities, relationships, and decisions.
- May we stay open to Jesus' searching questions—what we are looking for and who we say he is—so our longings are redirected toward what truly gives life and hope.
- May communion become more than a routine, strengthening our trust in Jesus' sacrificial love and renewing our willingness to follow him in concrete, costly ways.
- May we grow in steady discipleship, welcoming the Spirit's revelation and allowing our identity to be formed by Jesus rather than by the crowd's changing voices.

May 31, 2026

“A Poignant Self-Assessment Question”- Group Leader Guide

{Pastor Tim Boettger}

Sermon Recap 🎬

The sermon centers on Jesus' first recorded question to new followers in John 1:35–39: “What are you looking for?” As John the Baptist points two of his disciples to Jesus, they begin following Him, and Jesus turns to invite an honest conversation. Rather than giving quick answers, Jesus asks a question that assumes people are searching—and that their choices reveal what they truly desire.

The message invites listeners to treat Jesus' question as a personal self-assessment in everyday life. If Jesus asked you “What are you looking for?” as you change jobs, come to worship, make another purchase, complain, seek escape, chase recognition, or pursue control—how would you answer? The sermon emphasizes that Jesus asks this not because He lacks information, but because He wants us to become aware of what is driving us and where we are trying to find life.

The pastor explains that human desires are often misdirected or “too weak”—settling for temporary pleasures and shallow satisfactions—when God offers something far greater: lasting joy, freedom, peace, and eternal hope. Jesus' question is a loving invitation to examine our

motives, stop drifting toward lesser things, and pursue the deeper life found in Him. Like the first disciples who responded by spending time with Jesus, the sermon calls people to honestly name what they are seeking and to let Christ redirect that search toward what truly satisfies.

"What are you looking for? It's an open ended question inviting dialogue with a personal God."

Discussion Questions

How would you answer Jesus' question, "What are you looking for?" if he asked you in the middle of your normal week—at work, at home, online, or when you're stressed?

Try naming what you're actually chasing in those moments (comfort, control, approval, distraction, security, meaning). Then compare that to what you most want your life to be seeking. The gap between the two can reveal where you need Jesus' invitation to redirect your desires.

What do you think Jesus is trying to uncover or heal by asking such an open-ended question instead of giving immediate answers?

Jesus' question invites honesty, self-awareness, and relationship rather than mere information. It also exposes hidden motives—why we choose what we choose—and creates space for repentance and deeper trust. The goal is not to shame but to lead us toward "infinite joy" rather than smaller substitutes.

What are some "half-hearted" pursuits you tend to settle for, and why are they so appealing in the moment?

These can be anything that promises quick relief or a sense of worth—consumption, status, achievement, entertainment, or control. They often feel appealing because they're immediate and measurable, even if they don't satisfy for long. Discuss what needs or fears those pursuits are trying to manage.

How does Jesus' invitation, "Come, and you will see," challenge the way you normally make spiritual decisions or evaluate faith?

It shifts faith from just ideas to lived experience—spending time with Jesus and letting that shape what you desire. Instead of demanding certainty upfront, it invites curiosity, obedience, and relationship. Consider what it would look like to "spend the day with him" through practices like prayer, Scripture, and attentive listening.

What would change in your worship, habits, or relationships if you came to church and to daily life asking, "What am I truly looking for, and where am I looking for it?"

That question can turn routines into intentional choices and expose where you're seeking God versus using God to get something else. It may lead to simpler priorities, more honest

confession, and a clearer sense of purpose. As a group, talk about one concrete shift that could align your seeking with Jesus himself.

Prayer 🙏

- May we pause long enough to notice what we are truly seeking beneath our habits, purchases, complaints, and ambitions, and choose honesty over distraction. May our daily decisions reveal a desire for what lasts rather than what merely numbs.
- May we let Jesus' question, "What are you looking for?" become a daily self-assessment that guides our time, money, and attention. May we practice naming our deepest longing and aligning it with God's kingdom.
- May we bring our searching into the light by asking for help and direction when we feel lost, instead of pretending we know the way. May humility open us to wiser steps and truer joy.
- May we take initiative to follow, to "come and see," and to spend unhurried time with Jesus as the place where our desires are reshaped. May worship become a real encounter rather than a routine we rush through.
- May we refuse half-hearted substitutes and keep seeking the infinite joy, freedom, peace, and hope offered in Christ. May our lives be disciplined toward becoming people who love, serve, and grow with intention.