

THE APPRENTICE

WEEK ONE: Is There a Role Model in The House?!

INTRODUCTION – PEOPLE UNDER THE INFLUENCE

God models his approach to life on Planet Earth through _____.

LOOKING AT THE MAN, MISSION AND MESSAGE...

Matthew 9:35-38
Matthew 11:28-29

Choosing not to follow _____ – Is Choosing to follow _____

THE KINGDOM OF GOD vs. THE KINGDOM OF SELF

Mark 8:34

TO BE AN APPRENTICE OF JESUS MEANS:

1. MAKING A _____ TO THE PERSON OF JESUS

YOUR ASSIGNMENT:

Do your _____ before signing on.

OR

Evaluate your status as a Christian vs. an _____.

2. LEARN JESUS' _____.

Matthew 9:37-38

YOUR ASSIGNMENT:

Take on Jesus' _____ in Mat 9:38.

3. BECOME A LIFE-LONG _____.

Matthew 11:29

YOUR ASSIGNMENT:

Ask God to give you a learner's _____,
Jump in and start _____ Jesus teaching.

CONCLUSION – HOPE FOR A FAILED APPRENTICE

Matthew 26:57-58

Recommendations For Further Study...

BOOKS... The Divine Conspiracy (Dallas Willard); Matthew For Everyone (Tom Wright).

TAPES... God Questing (Series); Leap of Faith; The Way (Series)

HOME CHURCH QUESTIONS...

WARMING UP...

1. Take some time to go around the room and share about a person in your life (whether you know them or not) who has been a role model. Why are they so important to you?
2. Do a review of this week's message, taking time to discuss your reactions. Talk about what most challenged, puzzled, or encouraged you.

LOOK TO THE BOOK

3. The Apostle Peter was a key figure in the growth and nurturing of The Early Church. Break into smaller groups and divide up the following Peter texts: **Matthew 14:22-33, Matthew 16:13-23, Matthew 26:31-35, Matthew 26:57-59, Matthew 26:69-75, Luke 5:1-11, John 13:1-10, John 21:1-11, John 21:15-22** Discuss Peter's personality, strengths, weaknesses, successes or failures. Make note of any background information. Report your findings back to the group. What are some lessons that we can learn from Peter's life? Why do you think Jesus chose Peter to be a key leader in the life of the Early Church? In what ways can you relate to Peter in your own spiritual journey?
4. Read The Parable of The Sower in **Matthew 13:1-23**. Focusing on the interpretation of this parable (verses 18-23), expand upon; the seed sown along the path, on rocky places and among the thorns. How do each one of these things pose challenges to would-be Jesus Apprentices today? In what ways can we defend against these things? What does it mean to be someone who "hears the word and understands it" in verse 23? How can we help one another to hear and understand the word in our Home Church? What does it mean for us to "produce a crop" (verse 23)?

SO WHAT?

5. Consider the following quote by C.S Lewis: "If I find in myself a desire which no experience in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that I was made for another world." Discuss as a group – What are some of the desires or experiences in this world that people may use to address their spiritual hunger? How do these desires interfere with our desire to become Jesus Apprentices?
6. Breaking into men's and women's prayer groups, consider sharing your own struggle with a desire of this world that may interfere with you being a Jesus Apprentice. Pray for one another in this area.

Paul Morris @ THE MEETING HOUSE – Sunday, June 6 /13, 2004