

## Quarter At-A-Glance

### March 2019

# Discipleship and Mission

This quarter surveys several calls to ministry and the expectations of those called. Calls to service, as recorded in the Gospels of Mark and Luke, are highlighted. We explore Paul's call to ministry, with special attention to the Roman church. On Easter Sunday, we examine Matthew's account of the Resurrection.

### UNIT 1 • Call to Discipleship

This unit has four sessions and highlights several aspects of what it means to be called by Jesus as a disciple. They include hospitality, counting the cost, reaching the lost, and salvation for all people.

#### Lesson 1: March 3, 2019

##### Called to Humility and Hospitality

**Luke 14:7–14**

People crave recognition and status, but are never satisfied and always want more. How does one find true fulfillment in relationship with others? Jesus taught that demonstrating humility and extending unselfish hospitality bring fulfillment in this life and the life to come.

#### Lesson 2: March 10, 2019

##### A Costly Call

**Mark 1:16–20; Luke 14:25–33**

People are always faced with choices between the comfortable, easy way and the more helpful but challenging way. How do we make the right choice? Jesus challenged His hearers to count the cost and recognize the consequences of discipleship.

#### Lesson 3: March 17, 2019

##### Calling the Lost

**Luke 15:11–24**

In our world it is easy for people to lose their way. What is our responsibility to those who go astray? Jesus taught that those who are lost are loved by God and are to be valued, searched for, and welcomed back when they return.

#### Lesson 4: March 24, 2019

##### Calling to Salvation

**Luke 19:1–10**

Some people can be considered unacceptable, either because of their actions or because of stereotypes held by others. How does one find acceptance? Jesus recognized Zacchaeus' interest and honored him despite the grumbling of the crowd; Zacchaeus responded with overwhelming repentance.

### UNIT 2 • Call to Ministry

This unit has five sessions. It explores the diverse ways in which Jesus' disciples were challenged to exercise their call to ministry: by witnessing to the Gospel message, acting with loving-kindness, sharing the Resurrection story, and making new disciples through preaching, teaching, and baptism.

#### Lesson 5: March 31, 2019

##### Called to Discipleship

**Matthew 4:12–22**

People can be settled in their ways but destined for greater purposes. How do people discover and respond to that higher calling? When Jesus

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called His first disciples, they responded by leaving their routine work to follow Him.

**Lesson 6: April 7, 2019**

**Call and Mission**

**Matthew 10:1–15**

When people have discovered a greater purpose in life, they may be uncertain of what to do with that discovery. Where can persons find directions for implementing that greater purpose to benefit others? Jesus gave the first disciples direction to heal and witness to the “lost” persons of their shared community.

**Lesson 7: April 14, 2019**

**Called to Remember**

**Matthew 26:1–13**

People often long remember bad deeds done to them and forget good ones. Will the evil that is done to harm always outweigh the good? The woman with the alabaster jar performed an act of kindness to Jesus that will be remembered wherever the Good News is told.

**Lesson 8: April 21, 2019**

**Called to Proclaim the Resurrection**

**Matthew 28:1–15**

Many people live with despair and hopelessness. What is the source of genuine hope, and who can offer that hope? Jesus called and continues to call disciples to share and celebrate the Good News of His resurrection and the hope it offers to the world.

**Lesson 9: April 28, 2019**

**Call and Commissioning**

**Matthew 28:16–20; Acts 1:6–8**

When there have been dramatic changes in circumstances and in the roles of leadership, people are uncertain of their own roles and responsibilities. Where can they find direction and authority to act? The risen Lord commissioned the disciples, giving them authority and responsibility to continue and extend His mission and ministry throughout the world.

**UNIT 3 • The Spread of the Gospel**

This unit has four sessions. It begins with Paul’s introduction of himself to the Jewish and Gentile Christians living in Rome. Paul affirms that the call to salvation is to Israel and to Gentiles. This call to salvation is a call to a life in the Spirit and involves a new life in Christ.

**Lesson 10: May 5, 2019**

**Called to Righteousness**

**Romans 3:21–31**

People sense that evil actions negatively impact their lives. Who can make amends for evil behavior? Paul told the Romans that the blood of Christ atones for all our sin.

**Lesson 11: May 12, 2019**

**Called to Life in the Spirit**

**Romans 8:1–14**

Consequences of past actions, the reality of impending death, and a sense that we cannot undo past mistakes weigh heavily on the human spirit. Where does one find relief from these pressures? Paul assures us that those who are in Christ Jesus have life in the Spirit and are free from condemnation.

**Lesson 12: May 19, 2019**

**The Call of the Gentiles**

**Romans 11:11–24**

Privileged people often feel superior to others. What is the corrective to such feelings of superiority? Paul warns the Gentile believers that their acceptance into grace must not make them feel superior to their Jewish brothers and sisters.

**Lesson 13: May 26, 2019**

**Called to New Life in Christ**

**Romans 12:1–8**

People often engage in a me-first way of thinking, which results in conflict and makes cooperation difficult. How do people learn to work together? Paul compares the church to a body and encourages believers to see themselves as individual members that work in sync with all the other members.