

The image features a vibrant green golf course as a background. Centered on the course is a logo for the Men's League. The logo consists of the words "Men's League" in a large, black, serif font. Above and below the text are decorative flourishes: two curved lines that meet at a central point where two crossed golf clubs are positioned. Below the main text, the phrase "Building Character" is written in a smaller, black, serif font.

Men's League

Building Character

**LEADER GUIDE**

# **Men's League Leader Guide**

## **Introduction to The Beginning\***

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## **Introduction to The Way\***

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**\*Leader must lead session**

## Introduction to The Beginning

1. Spend some intentional time in fellowship. Ask questions about family, hobbies, work, etc.
2. Share your testimony. Answer the question of “how did I get to this place in my spiritual journey?”
3. Begin the discussion below.

### WHAT IS A DISCIPLE?

Congratulations! If you’ve chosen to live as a disciple of Jesus, you’ve made the most important decision imaginable. But you may be wondering, What does it mean to be a disciple? To put it simply, a disciple of Jesus is someone who has chosen to follow Jesus. That’s the command Jesus gave to those He recruited as His first disciples: “Follow me.” In Jesus’ culture, religious leaders called rabbis would gather a group of followers, called disciples, to follow in their footsteps and learn their teachings. In the same way, you will become more and more like Jesus as you purposefully follow Him in the weeks to come. Jesus once said, “Everyone who is fully trained will be like his teacher” (Luke 6:40). On a deeper level, disciples of Jesus are those learning to base their identities on Jesus Himself. All of us use different labels to describe who we are at the core levels of our hearts. Some think of themselves as athletes or intellectuals. Others think of themselves as professionals, parents, leaders, class clowns, and so on. Disciples of Jesus set aside those labels and base their identities on Him.

For example:

- A disciple of Jesus is a child of God. In the Bible we find these words: “Look at how great a love the Father has given us that we should be called God’s children. And we are!” (1 John 3:1). We are God’s children. He loves us as our perfect Father.
- A disciple of Jesus is an alien in this world. Disciples of Jesus are aliens, or outsiders, in their own cultures. Because of this identity, Jesus’ disciples abstain from actions and activities that are contrary to Him. Peter, one of Jesus’ original disciples, wrote these words: “Dear friends, I urge you as strangers and temporary residents to abstain from fleshly desires that war against you” (1 Peter 2:11).
- A disciple of Jesus is an ambassador for Christ. Another of Jesus’ disciples recorded these words in the Bible: “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away, and look, new things have come. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, certain that God is appealing through us. We plead on Christ’s behalf, ‘Be reconciled to God’” (2 Corinthians 5:17,20). Ambassadors represent their king and country in a different culture for a specified period of time. Because we have been transformed by Jesus and are now His disciples and ambassadors, we represent Him to the world through our actions and by telling others about Him.

The journey you are about to take is one that will transform you more and more to be like Jesus. Enjoy! No one ever loved and cared for people more passionately than Jesus. No one was ever more sincere in His concern for others than Jesus. And no one ever gave more so that we could experience His love than did Jesus on the cross.

As you grow to be more like Jesus, you'll find that your relationships are stronger, you have more inner peace than ever before, and you look forward to the future as never before. That's the blessing of living as a disciple of Jesus.

#### 4. Remind everyone of the principles of the Men's League

Our purpose is to build the character of men!

##### - Discipleship:

- Bible Study: just like what we are doing here, building a foundation and knowledge of God's Word. We have three areas that these studies will focus upon:
  - Foundation
  - Leadership
  - Daily Living
    - Reminder: You are learning these principles from God's Word to be able to teach others the same truths. This is why we ask each person in their small group to lead the group at least one time if not more, in order to learn how to communicate these truths to others.
- Accountability: This is time that we spend in here together discussing daily living issues. We can ask tough questions, build rapport, and allow for correction and rebuke as needed, but give encouragement as well.
- Mentoring: This is where we are guiding each other to grow in the love of God's Word and how it is applied.

##### - Missions: We have two focuses that we will work together in for our Men's League groups.

- In the community: we are to be light in the darkness. Our community is in need of seeing a church that does not sit in the walls, but gets out and lives out their faith.
- In the church: we are to show care for our brothers and sisters in Christ. So we look for those in the church that may need help and find ways to minister to them.

##### - Fellowship: Fellowship is not based in cookies and kool-aid. Fellowship is based in building love and care for one another. Fellowship is to be intentional and based upon God's Word. We will practice this in two ways:

- Large group- we will have intentional times that we will gather as a group of men to fellowship together.
- Small group- this is where the group gathers together and has their own personal fellowship apart from the large group of men. It builds friendship and the ability to once again speak into one another's life.

Our outcome is to multiply disciples that learn to multiply disciples!

#### 5. End with prayer for the Men's League and for each member of the group.

### Group Session 1: What Just Happened? (LEADER Led)

1. Beginning on page 9, talk through the statements under the “Reflect section”
2. Go through the prayer section on page 9.
3. Review the Introduction section. Ask the questions under the “Introduction” section. Introduce an object lesson or illustration here.
4. Read Luke 5:10-11. Ask the questions from page 11. Read the statements from page 11: Being a Christian isn’t about following rules; it’s about following a Person. Following Jesus is ultimately about doing what Jesus did the way that He did it.
5. Beginning on page 12, review the section “Unpack the Story.” This is a basic overview of the Gospel that helps us to understand the foundation of our lives.
  - a. Creation: Fashioned with His own hands and infused with His own breath, He created Adam and Eve to be in relationship with Him and to be stewards of His creation.
    - i. Why do you think it’s important to know God as Creator?
  - b. Fall: Adam and Eve believed a lie, turned against God, and pursued a story of their own making which left them separated from their Creator.
    - i. Discuss the idea that everything broke when sin entered the world through humanity.
    - ii. How do you see sin’s effects today?
  - c. Redemption: In order to reverse the disastrous effects of sin, to free people from the clutches of the Villain, and to restore people to God the Father, Jesus came to earth with His eyes on the cross.
    - i. What is significant to you about Jesus being both fully God and fully man?
  - d. Re-creation: The great story of God would explode across the globe and change hearts and live of men and women for all eternity.
    - i. When you read the overarching story of God, is there anything that surprises you? Why?
6. Complete the “Engage” section together. Have someone to read the verses and as the group hears attributes of Jesus then write them down and review the list afterwards.
7. Review the weekly activities on page 15. Explain to the group how these activities are here for their own personal study, but tell them how you will review these each week at the beginning of each section.
8. Review the memory verse for the week on page 15: 2 Corinthians 5:17, *“Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away, and look, new things have come.”* Challenge group members to practice saying this to a family member or friend.
9. Review also the weekly reading plan on page 16. Encourage group members to write down thoughts or questions they may have that stuck out to them from the passages they read.
10. Conclude in prayer. Use the prayer request lines to write down specific requests made by members on page 14.

Group activity: Choose a place to gather and pray for the worship services before they begin on the following Sunday.

## Group Session 2: The Centrality of Christ

1. Beginning on page 23; review the “Reflect” section. Spend time reviewing what was read and encountered through personal study. Ask the questions under the “Reflect” section. (Guard against using the entire time for review- at most this should take 10-15 minutes. Share about what you learned from your personal reading time.)
2. Go through the prayer section on page 23.
3. Review the Introduction section on page 24. Ask the questions under the “Introduction” section. Introduce an object lesson or illustration here.
4. Read Luke 19:1-10. Ask the questions from page 25.
5. Beginning on page 26, review the section “Unpack the Story.” This is a basic overview of our identity that is to be found in Christ.
  - a. Zacchaeus was a hated man: for being a thief and a traitor.
    - i. Judging from what you know about his (Zacchaeus) story, what do you think he thought about himself before encountering Jesus?
    - ii. What did his lifestyle suggest about his identity and motivation?
  - b. When we become Christians, Jesus redefines us as He becomes central to our identity and view of ourselves.
    - i. Why is it so important to understand that we are loved and accepted by Christ?
  - c. Because Jesus had become central, Zacchaeus’ treatment of people and money were now taking their cues from Jesus. As Christians, we approach every area of our lives with the intent of aligning them to Jesus.
    - i. What’s the most difficult part of this realignment?
    - ii. What’s the most freeing part of approaching life with this new perspective?
    - iii. Take a few minutes to read Luke 18:18-23. Discuss what you think was going on in the ruler’s heart that kept him from obeying Jesus’ challenge. How can we act the same?
6. Complete the “Engage” section together on page 28.
7. Review the weekly activities on page 29.
8. Review the memory verse for the week on page 29: Philippians 1:21, “*For me, living is Christ, and dying is gain.*” Challenge group members to practice saying this to a family member or friend.
9. Remind the group of the reading plan on page 30.
10. Conclude in prayer.

Group activity: Send a note or email or appreciation to your Life Group (Sunday School) teacher for all they do in preparing to teach God’s Word.

Begin as well to schedule time to meet with each group member individually for accountability.

Accountability questions: Have you spending time in God’s Word and in prayer? What have you been learning? What do you see God wants to be changed in your life?

### Group Session 3: Time with Jesus

1. Beginning on page 37; review the “Reflect” section. Spend time reviewing what was read and encountered through personal study. Ask the questions under the “Reflect” section. (Guard against using the entire time for review- at most this should take 10-15 minutes. Share about what you learned from your personal reading time.)
2. Go through the prayer section on page 37.
3. Review the Introduction section on page 38. Ask the questions under the “Introduction” section. Introduce an object lesson or illustration here.
4. Read Luke 10:38-42. Ask the questions from page 39.
5. Beginning on page 40, review the section “Unpack the Story.” This is a basic overview of how we communicate with God in prayer and in reading the Bible.

#### Talk to God through prayer

- a. As a disciple of Jesus, you have an opportunity to spend time with Him each day.
  - i. What are some potential obstacles that can hinder you from spending time with Jesus each day?
- b. God draws us close to Himself when we spend time with Him in prayer. For that reason, saturating your life with prayer each day is the beginning step to knowing God and experiencing Him in a meaningful way.
  - i. What do you look forward to the most when you think about prayer?
  - ii. What questions would you like to ask about the process and purpose of prayer?

#### Hear from God through His Word

- c. The more we draw close to God through prayer, the more open we become to hearing and receiving God’s guidance in our lives. That’s why the Bible is so important- because one of the primary ways God speaks to us today is through His Word.
    - i. What have you hear or been taught about the Bible?
    - ii. What questions would you like to ask about God’s Word?
  - d. As you hear from God through the pages of Scripture and begin to put His truth into practice, you’ll continue to develop a deep love and close relationship with Him.
    - i. What do you hope to experience as you study the Bible?
6. Complete the “Engage” section together on page 42.
  7. Review the weekly activities on page 43.
  8. Review the memory verse for the week on page 43: John 10:14. *“I am the good shepherd. I know My own sheep, and they know Me.”* Challenge group members to practice saying this to a family member or friend.
  9. Remind the group of the reading plan on page 44.
  10. Conclude in prayer. Use the prayer request section on page 42 to write down specific requests.

Group activity: Plan to attend the Redemption Car Show together.

Continue to meet for accountability sessions.

### Group Session 4: The Blessing of Community

1. Beginning on page 51; review the “Reflect” section. Spend time reviewing what was read and encountered through personal study. Ask the questions under the “Reflect” section. (Guard against using the entire time for review- at most this should take 10-15 minutes. Share about what you learned from your personal reading time.)
2. Go through the prayer section on page 51.
3. Review the Introduction section on page 52. Ask the questions under the “Introduction” section. Introduce an object lesson or illustration here.
4. Read Acts 1:8 and Acts 2:42-47. Ask the questions from page 53.
5. Beginning on page 54, review the section “Unpack the Story.” This is a basic overview of the identity and purpose of the church.

#### What is the church?

- a. It’s common for people to think of “church” as something Christians do.
  - i. What comes to mind when you hear the word “church”?
  - ii. How would you describe your past experiences with church?
- b. Here’s a definition [of the church]: the church is the community of people who follow Jesus Christ as Lord.
  - i. How do you respond to the above definition of the church?
  - ii. What is not in the definition that people may mistakenly include?
  - iii. If someone asked you to describe Millington FBC, how would you explain it?

#### What is the purpose of the church?

- c. There are two main purposes for the church: 1. To exist as a community of Christ-followers who support, encourage, and equip one another. 2. To serve as representative of God’s kingdom in order to accomplish His work in the world.
    - i. What do you look forward to when it comes to participating in the life of the church?
  - d. Because of their love for one another, the earliest members of the church were willing to sacrifice their own possessions in order to meet the needs of others.
    - i. What emotions do you experience when you help others? Why?
    - ii. When have you received encouragement or support as part of a church community?
6. Complete the “Engage” section together on page 56.
  7. Review the weekly activities on page 57.
  8. Review the memory verse for the week on page 57: 1 Corinthians 12:27 “*Now you are the body of Christ, and individual members of it.*” Challenge group members to practice saying this to a family member or friend.
  9. Remind the group of the reading plan on page 58.
  10. Conclude in prayer. Use the prayer request section on page 56 to write down specific requests.

Group activity: Remind everyone of the mission days that are coming up.

Continue to meet for accountability sessions.

### Group Session 5: Joining Jesus on Mission (LEADER Led)

1. Beginning on page 65; review the “Reflect” section. Spend time reviewing what was read and encountered through personal study. Ask the questions under the “Reflect” section. (Guard against using the entire time for review- at most this should take 10-15 minutes. Share about what you learned from your personal reading time.)
2. Go through the prayer section on page 65.
3. Review the Introduction section on page 66. Ask the questions under the “Introduction” section. Introduce an object lesson or illustration here.
4. Read Matthew 4:18-20 and Matthew 28:18-20. Ask the questions from page 67.
5. Beginning on page 68, review the section “Unpack the Story.” This is a basic overview of our call to serve as believers.

#### Your mission is from Jesus

- a. As a [new] disciple of Christ, you are part of Jesus’ continuing mission for the world. What’s more, as a new disciple, you are called to participate in that mission by helping to make more disciples of Christ.
  - i. What emotions do you experience when you think about “making disciples of Jesus? Why?
- b. With that in mind, remember that the foundation of Jesus’ commission was His own authority.
  - i. How do you respond to Jesus’ claim of authority?
  - ii. How should that remove fear from us taking on this mission?

#### Your mission is to make disciples

- c. Review on page 69 the three ways to make disciples: Go, Baptize, and Teach.
  - i. Which of the above steps seems most difficult to you? Why?
  - ii. How have you experienced the process of discipleship in your journey as a follower of Christ?
  - iii. What are practical things you can do to live these out each week?
6. Complete the “Engage” section together on page 70.
7. Review the weekly activities on page 71.
8. Review the memory verse for the week on page 71: John 14:6, “*Jesus told him, I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.*” Challenge group members to practice saying this to a family member or friend.
9. Remind the group of the reading plan on page 72.
10. Conclude in prayer. Use the prayer request section on page 70 to write down specific requests.

Group activity: Plan to attend GROW the following Tuesday to help invite people to attend Bring One Sunday.

Continue to meet for accountability sessions.

Remind the group that next week we will meet to introduce the new book and have a special fellowship time. Review next week’s group time and have everyone bring food to the group.

### **Introduction to the Way (LEADER Led)**

This session does not have to meet on campus or in specific rooms. Be flexible about where the group meets, but make sure Bro. Joseph knows, so groups are held accountable.

1. Celebrate together what you have experienced so far as a group. Ask for feedback about how they have enjoyed the bible study time, fellowship, accountability, and missions.
2. Spend time in prayer together as a group for the next weeks as you learn to grow together in learning what it means to follow Jesus. This is a great time to have each person pray in the group out loud.
3. Explain that the next study is similar in its format as The Beginning. The focus for this study though is to learn how to walk through the Gospels and follow the journey of Jesus and the first disciples.
4. Read Matthew 9:37-38. How is this a call for us to make and multiply disciples?
5. Ask: What would have been the most difficult part about being a disciple?
6. Ask: How can we relate to the first disciples? How were they different? What can we learn from the first disciples?
7. Ask: Why is it critical for us to learn how Jesus ministered and disciple others?
  - a. Jesus did not have a blueprint or a book by which to disciple others, we have the blessing of seeing how he did it and are called to model this with others.
8. Ask: How does Men's League encourage discipleship like Jesus? How have you been challenged in Men's League so far that you never have before?
9. Review over the sessions that will be discussed in the weeks to come. Have each person recite one of the verses they memorized during The Beginning study.
10. Conclude in prayer.

Group activity: Challenge each man to invite one lost man to attend the Monday Night Football celebration on October 5<sup>th</sup>.

Remind the group that with this study we are going to encourage them to lead and teach the group more often. This is critical to our development as disciples.

### Group Session 1: Defining a Disciple (LEADER Led)

1. Beginning on page 9; review the “Reflect” section. Ask the questions under the “Reflect” section.
2. Go through the prayer section on page 9.
3. Review the Introduction section on page 10. Ask the questions under the “Introduction” section. Introduce an object lesson or illustration here.
4. Read John 1:29-42. Ask the questions from page 11.
5. Beginning on page 12, review the section “Unpack the Story.” This is a basic overview of what it means to be a disciple.

#### Jesus has a mission for the world

- a. In order to understand what it means to live as followers of Jesus, we must first have a proper view of Jesus Himself.
  - i. What are some different ways people define Jesus today?
  - ii. How would you express or explain who Jesus is?
- b. Jesus didn't come to earth for a vacation...He had a purpose. He had a mission.
  - i. Where have you seen evidence of Jesus' mission?

#### Disciples participate in Jesus' mission for the world

- c. We must take action. Indeed, to be a disciple of Jesus is to participate in His mission and purpose for the world.
    - i. How would you describe your experiences of talking with others about Jesus?
    - ii. In addition to evangelism, what are some other ways we can participate in Jesus' mission for the world?
  - d. Followers of Christ typically work together in relationship with one another as they seek to advance His redemption mission in the world.
    - i. What are some advantages of working as a team to engage Jesus' mission for the world?
6. Complete the “Engage” section together on page 14.
  7. Review the weekly activities on page 15.
  8. Review the memory verse for the week on page 15: John 1:29, “*The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, ‘here is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.’*” Challenge group members to practice saying this to a family member or friend.
  9. Remind the group of the reading plan on page 16.
  10. Conclude in prayer. Use the prayer request section on page 14 to write down specific requests.

Group activity: Write a note of encouragement to a staff member.

Continue to meet for accountability sessions.

## Group Session 2: Jesus Calls His Disciples

1. Beginning on page 23; review the “Reflect” section. Spend time reviewing what was read and encountered through personal study. Ask the questions under the “Reflect” section. (Guard against using the entire time for review- at most this should take 10-15 minutes. Share about what you learned from your personal reading time.)
2. Go through the prayer section on page 23.
3. Review the Introduction section on page 24. Ask the questions under the “Introduction” section. Introduce an object lesson or illustration here.
4. Read John 1:43-51. Ask the questions from page 25.
5. Beginning on page 26, review the section “Unpack the Story.” This is a basic overview of how Jesus called His disciples.

### Disciples have an encounter with Jesus

- a. We become disciples of Christ when we experience Him in a way that changes our lives.
  - i. How has your life been changed by an encounter with Jesus?
- b. There are not magic words you have to say and no amount of steps you must follow in order to officially be considered a Christian. Instead, followers of Jesus are simply those who respond to His call.
  - i. What have you heard or been taught about the process of salvation?
  - ii. What have you heard or been taught about what happens after salvation?

### Disciples are transformed by Jesus

- c. The truth is that when we experience something that changes our lives for the better, we almost can't stop sharing the news. That's our natural reaction when we encounter something (or Someone) that brings us joy.
    - i. What emotions do you experience at the thought of sharing the gospel with those we care about?
    - ii. Why is it easier for us to share with those we don't know?
  - d. Spiritual transformation is what happens when the Holy Spirit takes up residence in our lives and we surrender to Him daily.
    - i. How have you experienced spiritual transformation?
6. Complete the “Engage” section together on page 28.
  7. Review the weekly activities on page 29.
  8. Review the memory verse for the week on page 29: Mark 2:17, “*When Jesus heard this, He told them, ‘those who are well don't need a doctor, but the sick do need one. I didn't come to call the righteous, but sinners.’*” Challenge group members to practice saying this to a family member or friend.
  9. Remind the group of the reading plan on page 30.
  10. Conclude in prayer. Use the prayer request section on page 28 to write down specific requests.

Group activity: Plan to serve together at Man Church.

Continue to meet for accountability sessions.

### Group Session 3: Jesus Teaches His Disciples

1. Beginning on page 37; review the “Reflect” section. Spend time reviewing what was read and encountered through personal study. Ask the questions under the “Reflect” section. (Guard against using the entire time for review- at most this should take 10-15 minutes. Share about what you learned from your personal reading time.)
2. Go through the prayer section on page 37.
3. Review the Introduction section on page 38. Ask the questions under the “Introduction” section. Introduce an object lesson or illustration here.
4. Read Matthew 7:24-29. Ask the questions from page 39.
5. Beginning on page 40, review the section “Unpack the Story.” This is a basic overview of how Jesus taught His disciples to live out His teachings.

#### Disciples adopt a posture to learn

- a. Again and again, Jesus called His disciples to a higher level of obedience.
  - i. Read Matthew 5:1-12. Which of Jesus’ statements do you find most countercultural? Why?
- b. Notice that not everyone heard Jesus’ teaching. Not everyone followed Him up the mountain. But His disciples did.
  - i. In what settings or situations do you most often hear from Jesus in a meaningful way?
  - ii. How can you intentionally place yourself in a posture to learn from Jesus this week?

#### Disciples obey what they learn

- c. Disciples...learn for the sake of obedience. They learn in order to take action.
    - i. When have you experienced the tension between believing something to be true and acting on that belief?
  - d. Clearly the teachings of Jesus offer the only sure foundation on which we can build. He is the Rock.
    - i. What are some key teachings of Jesus that all disciples should believe?
    - ii. What actions are required or implied by His teachings?
6. Complete the “Engage” section together on page 42.
  7. Review the weekly activities on page 43.
  8. Review the memory verse for the week on page 43: Matthew 7:24, *“Everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them will be like a sensible man who built his house on the rock.”* Challenge group members to practice saying this to a family member or friend.
  9. Remind the group of the reading plan on page 43.
  10. Conclude in prayer. Use the prayer request section on page 42 to write down specific requests.

Group activity: Plan to attend GROW together as a group again. Also plan to get coffee or a meal afterwards.

Continue to meet for accountability sessions.

### Group Session 4: Jesus Equips His Disciples

1. Beginning on page 51; review the “Reflect” section. Spend time reviewing what was read and encountered through personal study. Ask the questions under the “Reflect” section. (Guard against using the entire time for review- at most this should take 10-15 minutes. Share about what you learned from your personal reading time.)
2. Go through the prayer section on page 51.
3. Review the Introduction section on page 52. Ask the questions under the “Introduction” section. Introduce an object lesson or illustration here.
4. Read Matthew 10:1, 5-15. Ask the questions from page 53.
5. Beginning on page 54, review the section “Unpack the Story.” This is a basic overview of how Jesus takes care of His disciples and gifts us to do certain tasks.

#### Jesus provides what we need

- a. In our efforts to live as His disciples, Jesus equips us with a number of important resources.
  - i. How have your talents and abilities empowered you to participate in Jesus’ mission for the world?
- b. Disciples today are also called to achieve an incredible goal- the advancement of God’s kingdom throughout the world.
  - i. When have you felt empowered to take action or make the right choice because of your relationship with Jesus?

#### Jesus clarifies what we don’t need

- c. Jesus was calling the disciples to let go of what made them feel safe and comfortable before they went on mission.
    - i. When was the last time you took a leap of faith? What happened next?
  - d. Following Jesus should force us to rely completely on Him.
    - i. What are your current goals as a disciple of Jesus?
    - ii. In what ways have you been dependent on Jesus in order to achieve those goals?
    - iii. Why should our “comfort zone” be doing God’s will no matter the cost instead of being comfortable?
6. Complete the “Engage” section together on page 56. This is great for a white board exercise.
  7. Review the weekly activities on page 57.
  8. Review the memory verse for the week on page 57: Matthew 10:27-28, *“What I tell you in the dark, speak in the light. What you hear in a whisper, proclaim on the housetops. Don’t fear those who kill the body but are not able to kill the soul; rather, fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.”* Challenge group members to practice saying this to a family member or friend.
  9. Remind the group of the reading plan on page 58.
  10. Conclude in prayer. Use the prayer request section on page 56 to write down specific requests. Group activity: As a group find a way to bless a leader in the church. Continue to meet for accountability sessions.

### Group Session 5: Jesus Sends His Disciples (LEADER Led)

1. Beginning on page 65; review the “Reflect” section. Spend time reviewing what was read and encountered through personal study. Ask the questions under the “Reflect” section. (Guard against using the entire time for review- at most this should take 10-15 minutes. Share about what you learned from your personal reading time.)
2. Go through the prayer section on page 65.
3. Review the Introduction section on page 66. Ask the questions under the “Introduction” section. Introduce an object lesson or illustration here.
4. Read Matthew 28:16-20. Ask the questions from page 67.
5. Beginning on page 68, review the section “Unpack the Story.” This is a basic overview of how Jesus sent His disciples to be on mission.

#### Jesus tells us where to go

- a. Because His Great Commission is a series of commands. He is ordering us to obey Him. We also though must do so with a loving and compassionate heart for the lost.
  - i. What does it mean to recognize Jesus’ authority in our lives?
  - ii. Why is it important to know the truth of Romans 10:13?
- b. ...Christians should take an active role in spreading the gospel throughout the world- and it certainly means we should be open to the possibility of physically traveling to other places to spread the gospel.
  - i. How would you describe your experiences with missions?
  - ii. What are different ways we can obey Jesus and contribute to spreading the gospel across “all nations”?

#### Jesus tells us what to do

- c. We are called to make disciples, and we start by proclaiming the gospel wherever we can. When our efforts produce fruit- when someone makes a decision to follow Jesus- baptism is the next step.
    - i. How would you describe your experience with baptism?
  - d. ...One of our main goals in living the Great Commission is to connect with new disciples in such a way that we provide an example of how to follow Christ.
    - i. Who has been an example of Christlikeness for you?
    - ii. How confident do you feel in your ability to make disciples and serve as an example for others to follow? Relate this to Men’s League.
6. Complete the “Engage” section together on page 70.
  7. Review the weekly activities on page 71.
  8. Review the memory verse for the week on page 71: Acts 1:8, *“You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come on you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”*
  9. Remind the group of the reading plan on page 72.
  10. Conclude in prayer. Use the prayer request section on page 70 to write down specific requests.

Group activity: Each group member needs to take the PLACE test either online or physically.

### **Group Session 6: PLACE Test Review**

1. Review PLACE test results with the group.
2. Handout the Ministries guide for Millington FBC. Encourage group members to see where God could use them based upon their PLACE results.
3. The Leader needs to explain the next steps of Men's League
  1. Beginning in December the Men's League will meet as a group. We will go through a book study together.
  2. In January, the entire Men's League will begin a new study based on Experiencing God. This will meet in a large group setting with time for group discussion.
  3. Players that are prepared to become coaches immediately will be able to take men through The Beginning and The Way study.
  4. The Men's League focus for missions will be to help those inside the church (widows, elderly, single mothers).
  5. Graduation for Men's League will be in April 2016.
4. Conclude in prayer together

Group activity: Plan to attend the large group fellowship at the end of the fall semester.