



## Session 2: Meeting Jesus and Sharing Life in Small Groups

### Focus Prayer

As you begin your reflection time, offer this prayer or the words of your own heart.

*God, give me ears to hear, eyes to see, and a heart to know your love through my time here today. Amen.*

### Core Theme

Small groups – Jesus gathered his disciples into a group of followers. We also flourish when we follow him as part of a small, intentional community where we experience belonging to God and to each other.

### Scripture: Mark 3:13-19

Jesus went up the mountain and called to him those whom he wanted, and they came to him. And he appointed twelve, whom he also named apostles, to be with him, and to be sent out to proclaim the message, and to have authority to cast out demons. So he appointed the twelve: Simon (to whom he gave the name Peter); James son of Zebedee and John the brother of James (to whom he gave the name Boanerges, that is, Sons of Thunder); and Andrew, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus, and Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

In a journal or with a partner, explore the following:

- What words or phrases in the passage from the Gospel of Mark did you notice that show how Jesus called people? What exactly did Jesus say and do?
- Have you ever been part of a small intentional group of followers of Jesus?
- How does following him in this way complement other parts of the Christian life (like individual and congregational)?
- How has being in a small group helped you or people you know to experience belonging to God and each other?
- How can you be intentional about your participation in *Centered*?

### Closing Prayer

Close your reflection time with prayer, either with these words or your own.

*I give thanks for the love of Christ, in and through all things. Amen.*

### Additional Engagement Opportunities

- Notice the people God has placed around you. How might you listen more deeply to

them and share more fully with them? Try deepening your connection with one person or a group of people in the time between Sessions 2 and 3.