Find and Follow-Discussion Questions Week Three

- 1) Laura Garry, Central's Groups and Communication Director joined us this week to discuss the why of reading our Bibles. Why should we make reading our Bible a priority in our lives? How would you answer that question?
- 2) To follow Jesus, we need to know Him in a relationship. We need to learn who He is, who God is, and who the Holy Spirit is. We need to grow to learn who we are as God's sons and daughters. Who does God say He is, and who does God say we are? What have you learned from the Bible about who God is? What have you learned from the Bible about who God's child?
- 3) Have you ever thought about how some people learn to follow the Bible and completely miss following Jesus? Have you or someone you know learned to follow rules instead of following the person of Jesus Christ? Why is it essential that when we pick up our Bibles, we do so, understanding first and foremost that the entirety of Scripture reveals how we are to move from following the law as a priority, as in the Old Testament, to following Jesus as our priority today?
- 4) In Living Fearlessly by Jamie Winship, he writes, "Most of us were told that our problem is that we do wrong things. But that's not really the issue. The issue is wrong belief or believing what is not true. This wrong or false belief leads us to separate or deviate from God, ourselves, and others. The result of this separation, this sin, is wrong action. Our tendency is to focus on wrong actions, and we miss the source, which is wrong belief." How can our actions reflect wrong beliefs about God's character, our identity as God's child, or the image of God in other people?
- 5) Do you realize the Bible is meant to teach us the freedom found in a relationship with Jesus? Sadly, the Pharisees and religious rulers did not in Jesus' day. The Scriptures became back then, and the Bible now can become a rule book to hold over people rather than a book of liberation, revealing God's love in His Son, Jesus. How have you seen people use the Bible as a rule book to hold over someone else? How does Romans 2:4 help us to remember the truth? "Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?"
- 6) Did you know that we don't create meaning as we read Scripture; we find the meaning that is already there? How can you implement asking these questions when you read the Bible? (1) What did the text mean to the biblical audience?

(2) What are the differences between the biblical audience and mine today?

- (3) What principle did the biblical author intend to share?
- 7) Trevor Hudson. He writes, "We don't just drift into friendship with Jesus. Being His friend, like being anyone's friend, is a very definite and specific choice we make." How is this series helping you learn to be Jesus' friend? John 15:14-15