

a people apprenticed to the life of Jesus		
Date	Topic	Scripture
Sept 9	<p>The LIFE of Jesus: What Were We Made For?</p> <p><i>This sermon will be a "holy longing," "soul cravings" kind of sermon, pointing to the deep hunger we all have for what the Bible calls "eternal" life - an unlimited, flourishing, multiplying kind of life. Jesus says this comes from knowing God, especially as he has revealed himself in Jesus Christ.</i></p>	Matthew 13:44-45, John 17:3, with stories of people who came to Jesus looking for the "cipher" for life.
Sept 16	<p>The LIFE of Jesus: A People Apprenticed to the Life of Jesus</p> <p><i>The way that an "eternal kind of life" through knowing God in Christ becomes accessible to people of every nations is through fulfilling the Great Commission. We want to rediscover the church's call to not just make converts or do social justice, but to raise up, equip and mobilize people to recover their full human identity and vocation through apprenticeship to Jesus, who is the "Master Human."</i></p>	Matthew 28:16-20
Sept 23	<p>The LIFE of Jesus: What is an Apprentice?</p> <p><i>Jesus launched his ministry inviting people into the eternal life of the kingdom by making apprentices. An apprentice is a person who is loved by Jesus (Come), led by Jesus (Follow), to become like Jesus (Make), so they can lead others to Jesus (Fish). The ultimate goal of apprenticeship is to love God and to love others. The process is described in Matthew 4:19. The Great Commandment points toward the importance of it happening in community – this is where we begin to introduce people to the "relational environments" we are calling people to participate in.</i></p>	<p><u>Matthew 4:17-21</u> Matthew 22:34-40</p>
Sept 30	<p>The LIFE of Jesus: LOVED BY Jesus ("Come") #1</p> <p><i>Jesus meets us exactly where we are, from a host of different stories and backgrounds, qualifies us for his "school" of apprenticeship exactly as we are, so that we can experience his life and join him in a way of life with an infinitely greater purpose. Another opportunity to emphasize the communal, not just individual, nature of apprenticeship to Jesus.</i></p>	<p><u>Matthew 4:19</u> Luke 5:1-11, 6:12-16 (calling of Peter and the twelve)</p>
Oct 7	<p>The LIFE of Jesus: LOVED BY Jesus ("Come") #2</p> <p><i>Jesus' invites both those with a "questionable" past and those with an "impeccable" record to understand their debt, receive forgiveness, and enter into his life as his apprentices. A good opportunity to unpack what authentic community is... not masks or fake piety but a shared experience of grace.</i></p>	<p><u>Matthew 4:19</u> Luke 7:36-50</p>

Oct 14	<p>The LIFE of Jesus: LOVED BY Jesus ("Come") #3</p> <p><i>Jesus even seeks out, frees, and invites those who are lost, bound and excluded to enter into his life as his apprentices.</i></p>	<p><u>Matthew 4:19</u> Luke 8:26-39</p>
Oct 21	<p>The LIFE of Jesus: LED BY Jesus ("Follow") #1</p> <p><i>Being led by Jesus, God's Messiah, means significant change – expressed in the idea of death that leads to life – trusting God's call to obedience enough that no price is too great to find his kingdom.</i></p>	<p><u>Matthew 4:19</u> Luke 9:18-27, 57-62</p>
Oct 28	<p>The LIFE of Jesus: LED BY Jesus ("Follow") #2</p> <p><i>Being led by Jesus means releasing control completely and handing it over to Jesus, trusting that his leadership will lead to better outcomes than anything we could construct for ourselves.</i></p>	<p><u>Matthew 4:19</u> Luke 18:18-30</p>
Nov 4	<p>The LIFE of Jesus: BECOMING LIKE Jesus ("Make") #1 – Word</p> <p><i>Apprentices who are formed into the image of Christ are intentional about allowing and cultivating the influence of the Word (the message and person of Jesus) in their lives. There is no true spiritual fruit without the Word, the Truth about Christ becoming our framework for life.</i></p>	<p><u>Matthew 4:19</u> Luke 8:1-15 (sower & seed)</p>
Nov 11	<p>The LIFE of Jesus: BECOMING LIKE Jesus ("Make") #3 – Relational Environments:</p> <p><i>Jesus' primary context for making apprentices was relationship – life on life contact in community, intentionally processed through the lens of the kingdom. We learn to love God and people by walking the path of life together in meaningful and transparent ways! Introduce the four environments, especially focusing on the nature of spiritual family in Life Groups and shared accountability in Apprenticeship Groups.</i></p>	<p><u>Matthew 4:19</u> WGs - Luke 4:16; LG – Luke 6:12-13, 8:19-21, John 1:11-13, 1 John 3:1-2, 16-18; DG – Luke 8:51, 9:28, Mark 14:33; MT – Luke 9:1-6,10</p>
Nov 18	<p>The LIFE of Jesus: BECOMING LIKE Jesus ("Make") #2 – Habits</p> <p><i>We must not underestimate the challenge of becoming like Jesus – it will require a commitment to sustained and strategic attention to change through disciplines of abstinence ("hating"/"going to war") and engagement ("carrying"/"building"). "Grace is opposed to earning, not to effort." (Dallas Willard)</i></p>	<p><u>Matthew 4:19</u> Luke 14:25-35 (counting the cost)</p>
Nov 25	BAPTISM SUNDAY	
Dec 2	<p>The LIFE of Jesus: LEADING OTHERS to Jesus ("fish") #1</p>	<p>Advent: Four Images from Jesus of the seeking Heart of God, always pointing back to how</p>

	<p><i>Jesus' heart was always for those far from God. He was never satisfied to take care of himself, looking down on or even condemning others to their fate; he embodied the seeking heart of God. And that's what his true apprentices do too – inviting the lost brothers back into the Father's work!</i></p> <p><i>Advent Readings about the son of David, Son of God, the Messiah.</i></p>	<p>multiplying apprenticeship is the implication.</p> <p><u>Matthew 4:19</u> Luke 15:11-32 (The Seeking Father → The Father's Work)</p>
Dec 9	<p>The LIFE of Jesus: LEADING OTHERS to Jesus ("fish") #2</p> <p><i>The GC will only be achieved through the raising up and multiplication of apprentice-makers, intentional shepherds who bear Jesus' burden of responsibility for the health and multiplication of the flock.</i></p> <p><i>Advent Readings about the shepherds.</i></p>	<p><u>Matthew 4:19</u> John 10:1-17, 27-29; 21:15-19; 1 Peter 5:1-5 (Jesus, the Good Shepherd → Peter → Elders)</p>
Dec 16	<p>The LIFE of Jesus: LEADING OTHERS to Jesus ("fish") #3</p> <p><i>Jesus' life was a light, a revelation of God's glory in the world. The common life of obedience of his apprentices is how his light continues and spreads in the world.</i></p> <p><i>Advent Readings about the Light</i></p>	<p><u>Matthew 4:19</u> John 1:4-5; 8:12; Matthew 5:14-16 (Jesus, the Light → Apprenticeship Community as Light)</p>
Dec 23	<p>The LIFE of Jesus: LEADING OTHERS to Jesus ("fish")</p> <p><i>The work of Jesus – proclaiming the kingdom, healing and deliverance, making apprentices – continues and multiplies through the apprentice-making work of the church, his Body in the world.</i></p> <p><i>Advent readings about Immanuel,</i></p>	<p><u>Matthew 4:19</u> John 1:12; 1 Corinthians 12:27, Ephesians 4:11-16 (Jesus, God in the Flesh → Church, Christ in the Flesh)</p>