Small group discussion questions

October 2017

A good question: What makes a disciple? (page 20-23)

1. Richard Church, in his first paragraph, talks about being formed ‘gradually into the image of Jesus’. Do you find this appealing? What aspects of Jesus’ character would you like to see more of in your life?

2. In paragraph three, Richard mentions the importance of ‘stillness’. What do you gain from times of stillness in your life? How can we create more such times?

3. How would you answer the question in Richard’s last paragraph: ‘How can my local church make, grow and release disciples?’

4. Have you ever had the kind of relationship with someone that Susan Durber describes in her first paragraph? If so, who and why?

5. Jesus, says Susan in her second paragraph, ‘is the way that I have come to know God and know that I am the object of God’s love.’ Do we know God through Jesus?

6. In Susan’s third paragraph, she talks about giving Jesus ‘first say on what life could and should be’. How well does that describe your own experience?

7. Neil Hudson talks in his second paragraph, about learning the ways of Jesus through ‘the joys and tough times’ of our lives. Can you think of any examples of this happening for you personally?

8. What does ‘living by the Spirit’ mean (see Neil Hudson’s fourth paragraph)? And what difference does/can it make?

9. Neil talks at the end of his piece about ‘our work places, our family relationships, our friendships and neighbourhood responsibilities’. What impact could our discipleship have on these things?
10. Jill Segger says, in her second and third paragraphs, that when three men asked Jesus where he lived, he replied not with an address ‘but with an invitation’. What is the significance of that?

11. ‘We are invited on a journey,’ says Jill in her last paragraph. What will be the next step of that journey for you?

For further reflection: ‘Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.”’ (Matthew 16:24)

Prayer: Jesus, may we have ears to hear where you call us, and the strength to follow. Lead us on, we pray. Amen