

## PLASTIC JESUS | 1-10-16

### REFLECT & DISCUSS

We live in a culture today that picks & chooses the truth that best suits us. It is dangerous to think this has no impact on our understanding of Jesus. What if you are following a Jesus of your own design, a plastic Jesus, rather than Jesus, King of the Universe? Would you want to know? How would you find out? How does the image of plastic Jesus sit with you? What is the difference between molding Jesus into our image instead of being molded into the image of Christ?

### READ: *Luke 5:1-3*

Many people crowded around Jesus to hear Him teach about the word of God. In the crowd was a mix of fans and followers. What is the difference between a fan and a follower of Jesus? How are followers more committed than fair weather fans? When Jesus challenged the crowds to sacrifice & follow Him, how do you think the fans responded? How did the followers respond? In your life, have you been a fan or a follower of Christ? What is the reward of sacrificing for Christ and allowing Him to transform us?

### READ: *Luke 5:4-5*

Jesus challenges Peter to let out his nets into deep water after a failed attempt at fishing all night. Consider what is happening here. This is the first time Peter meets Jesus. A Jewish Rabbi is telling an experienced fisherman how to fish. If you were Peter, wouldn't you be a bit insulted? How do you respond when Jesus speaks into an area of your life that you think you have control over? What causes Peter to call this man he just met *Master* and do what He says to do? Do you let Jesus have this kind of authority in your life?

### READ: *Luke 5:6-11*

How is Jesus' power shown here? How did He awaken wonder in these men? What was Peter's response? What did these men decide to do in verse 11? What would have happened if Peter, James, and John kept fishing and didn't follow Jesus? Instead, what did they get to be a part of because they left everything and followed Him?

### CHALLENGE

Get alone with Jesus and ask Him to show you His power and wonder. Allow Him to fill you with His presence and to humble you. Do what it takes to make following Him the first priority of your life.

### PRAYER

Powerful Jesus, I submit my life to you. Forgive me for the ways that I have tried to shape you into my image. I want to be shaped into Your image so I can be my best for Your Kingdom!