



FREEDOM TO FLOURISH

BIG IDEA: We are called to not just be “Christians” (i.e. people who believe in God) but to be fully committed, fruitful disciples of Jesus. We have been set free by God to live lives that bring Him glory, bring us our greatest fulfilment and show the world what life really is.



Week 4 – Action

Big idea: Listening and even understanding without action means we are not living the life God called us to and we will not flourish as a Christian.

FORMING CONNECTIONS

Share any lessons from last week from self-meditation or personality tests.

What were you like at school or college? Dedicated, hard-working, unmotivated or a crammer? Discuss among the group how you learn best – reading by yourself, listening to instruction, watching others, doing?

BIBLE STUDY

Jn 10:22-42, Mt 7:24-27

Why was Jesus pointing to his actions when answering the Jews?

What is the mode of learning that Jesus commends in Matthew? Why would that enable you to withstand the storms (of life)?

How easy is it to get stuck in a cycle of listening/hearing/learning but not doing anything about it?! Jesus knew this about us too, which is why he continued to point his disciples to action.

READ John 10: 1-17

Why do you think that Jesus sent them out at this stage (and why in pairs)?

What was their reaction when they got back?

Share any examples of what happened when you took some action that you felt God was calling you to?

How often do you 'go out' with the gospel?

PERSONAL REFLECTION

Be honest – how often do you actively share the gospel with people? Think back over the past month, the past year, the past 10 years. Has this become a problem for you in your discipleship? Is this an issue of obedience?



NEXT STEPS

This is an essential rhythm of discipleship – hearing, doing, reflecting – and it’s also crucial to a flourishing life. If all we do is sit around and listen, we’re not flourishing! At some point we need to actually do what we’re talking about.

ACTION

Pray about the action you should be taking as a Christian. Then look for one opportunity to speak to someone, help someone out, pray for someone needing prayer.