

## EPISODE 1 I Have Called You By Name (54 minutes)

**Group Gathering:** Make a wide circle. The first person introduces themselves and explains how they got their name, if it has special meaning, etc. “Pass” the imaginary ball to the next person to invite them to share.

**Opening Prayer:** O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people; Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

### Scripture References

- The prophet Isaiah 43:1 But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: **Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.** When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.
- The Gospel according to John chapter 3: Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He **came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God;** for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit...”
- Paul’s first letter to the church in Corinth 1 Corinthians 9:1-5 “Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord? Are you not my work in the Lord? If I am not an apostle to others, at least I am to you; for you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord. This is my defense to those who would examine me. Do we not have the right to our food and drink? **Do we not have the right to be accompanied by a believing wife, as do the other apostles and the brothers of the Lord and Cephas?**” (Cephas is another name for Peter.) Spoilers: The Healing of Peter’s Mother in Law (his wife’s mother) appears in Matthew 8:14–15, Mark 1:29–31, and Luke 4:38–39.

## **EPISODE 1 I Have Called You By Name**

### **Describe Each Person in 5 Words or Less**

Nicodemus

Matthew

Mary of Magda (Magdalene)

Peter

Andrew

Jesus

### **Group Discussion After Watching**

WHO do you want to get to know better?

WHAT makes this episode compelling?

WHERE do you see yourself in the story?

WHEN do you spend time with Scripture (the Bible)?

WHY is this Jesus convincing...or not convincing?

### **Share with a Partner**

A for Amazed

B for Bothered

C for Confused

D for Delighted

## **EPISODE 1 I Have Called You By Name**

### **Freewriting Prompts**

What is it like seeing these people in their “before Jesus” lives?

What actions made you think, or moved you emotionally?

What does “I have called you by name, you are mine” mean to YOU personally?

What is on your heart for the week ahead? How can you make more room for prayer this week?

### **Closing Worship**

Compline in the Book of Common Prayer, Page 127

### **Closing Prayer**

Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*